

**Rep07**

**From:** Stuart Rosenblatt <[stuart@rosenblatt.ccsend.com](mailto:stuart@rosenblatt.ccsend.com)> on behalf of Stuart Rosenblatt <[rosenblattstu@gmail.com](mailto:rosenblattstu@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 14, 2018 8:42 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** Legislator Alert---London Bank Magazine Warns of Debt Crisis! ; Build Infrastructure Like FDR



## The Economist

Buttonwood

### Where will the next crisis occur? Corporate debt could be the culprit



### The Next Crash Will Be Worse!

Print edition | Finance and economics, May 3rd 2018

INTEREST rates are heading higher and that is likely to put financial markets under strain. Investors and regulators would both dearly love to know where the next crisis will come from. What is the most likely culprit?

Financial crises tend to involve one or more of these three ingredients: excessive borrowing, concentrated bets and a mismatch between assets and liabilities. The crisis of 2008 was so serious because it involved all three—big bets on structured products linked to the housing market, and bank-balance sheets that were both overstretched and dependent on short-term funding. The Asian crisis of the late 1990s was the result of companies borrowing too much in dollars when their revenues were in local currency. The dotcom bubble had less serious consequences than either of these because the concentrated bets were in equities; debt did not play a significant part.

It may seem surprising to assert that the genesis of the next crisis is probably lurking in corporate debt. Profits have been growing strongly. Companies in the S&P 500 index are on target for a 25% annual gain once all the results for the first quarter are published. Some companies, like Apple, are rolling in cash.

But plenty are not. In recent decades companies have sought to make their balance-sheets more "efficient" by raising debt and taking advantage of the taxdeductibility of interest payments. Businesses with spare cash have tended to use it to buy back shares, either under pressure from activist investors or because doing so will boost the share price (and thus the value of executives' options).

At the same time, a prolonged period of low rates has made it very tempting to take on more debt. S&P Global, a credit-rating agency, says that as of 2017, 37% of global companies were highly indebted. That is five percentage points higher than the share in 2007, just before the financial crisis hit. By the same token, more private-equity deals are loading up on lots of debt than at any time since the crisis.

One sign that the credit quality of the market has been deteriorating is that, globally, the median bond's rating has dropped steadily since 1980, from A to BBB- (see chart). The market is divided into investment grade (debt with a high credit rating) and speculative, or "junk", bonds below

that level. The dividing line is at the border between BBB- and BB+. So the median bond is now one notch above junk.

Even within investment-grade debt, quality has gone down. According to PIMCO, a fund-management group, in America 48% of such bonds are now rated BBB, up from 25% in the 1990s. Issuers are also more heavily indebted than before. In 2000 the net leverage ratio for BBB issuers was 1.7. It is now 2.9.

Investors are not demanding higher yields to compensate for the deteriorating quality of corporate debt; quite the reverse. In a recent speech during a conference at the London Business School, Alex Brazier, the director for financial stability at the Bank of England, compared the yield on corporate bonds with the risk-free rate (the market's forecast for the path of official short-term rates).....

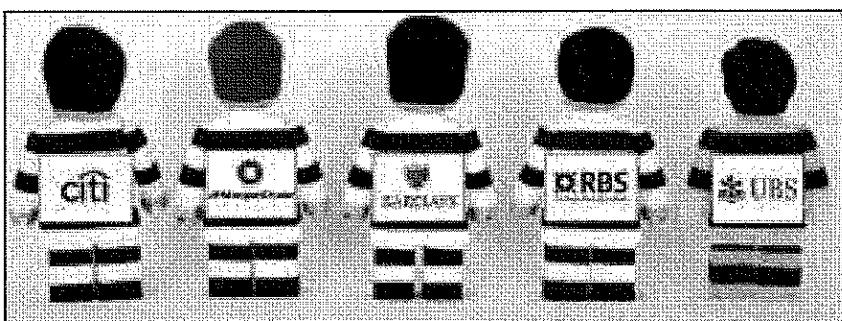
Mr Brazier also found that the cost of insuring against a bond issuer failing to repay, as measured by the credit-default-swap market, fell by 40% over the past two years. That makes it seem as if investors are less worried about corporate default. But a model looking at the way that banks assess the probability of default, compiled by Credit Benchmark, a data-analytics company, suggests that the risks have barely changed over that period.

**So investors are getting less reward for the same amount of risk. Combine this with the declining liquidity of the bond market (because banks have withdrawn from the market-making business) and you have the recipe for the next crisis. .....**

Matt King, a strategist at Citigroup, says that foreign purchases of American corporate debt have dried up in recent months, and the return on investment-grade debt so far this year has been -3.5%. He compares the markets with a game of musical chairs. As central banks withdraw monetary stimulus, they are taking seats away. Eventually someone will miss a seat and come down with a bump.....

[Read the Article Here](#)

## Banking Fraternity Felons - Except for Goldman Sachs



Bank Fraternity Felons

By Pam Martens and Russ Martens: May 9, 2018

Three years ago this month the U.S. Department of Justice brought felony charges against two of the largest Wall Street banks, JPMorgan Chase and Citigroup, for their involvement in rigging foreign currency markets. On the same date, two foreign banks, Barclays PLC and the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS), were charged with felonies in the same matter. A fifth bank, UBS, was charged with a felony for its role in rigging the interest rate benchmark known as Libor. All five banks pleaded guilty to the charges.

Citigroup was fined \$925 million by the Justice Department for its foreign currency conduct that ran from as early as December 2007 until at least January 2013, roughly five years. JPMorgan was fined \$550 million for rigging activity that ran from as early as July 2010 to January 2013, about two and a half years. The offenses the banks were charged with pertained to their foreign currency traders engaging in chat rooms with traders from competitor banks, sharing confidential customer order information in order to rig foreign currency markets and boost profits for their firms.

Somehow, Goldman Sachs slipped through the Justice Department's net. It was never charged with a felony by the Justice Department. Now, three years later, the Federal Reserve and the New York State Department of Financial Services (DFS) have imposed a combined modest fine of \$109.5 million against Goldman Sachs for essentially

**the very same conduct that resulted in Citigroup and JPMorgan Chase becoming felons and paying much steeper fines.**

The Fed's consent order with Goldman Sachs is slim on details but the DFS consent order describes dozens of instances where Goldman traders shared customer information and/or overtly attempted to manipulate the foreign currency market over a period of about 5 years from 2008 to early 2013. (Read the explicit examples here.)

The press release from the DFS sounds extremely similar to the charges leveled by the Justice Department against Citigroup and JPMorgan on May 20, 2015. The DFS stated:

"The DFS investigation found that from 2008 to early 2013, Goldman foreign exchange traders participated in multi-party electronic chat rooms, where traders, sometimes using code names to discreetly share confidential customer information, discussed potentially coordinating trading activity and other efforts that could improperly affect currency prices or disadvantage customers. This improper activity sought to enable banks and the involved traders to achieve higher profits from execution of foreign exchange trades, sometimes at customers' expense..."

Why was the foreign exchange case against Goldman relegated to the Federal Reserve (the U.S. central bank that is known for its coziness with Wall Street) and the DFS, a state agency, instead of being handled by the Justice Department's criminal enforcement division that has the power to level felonies? This is just one more of those mysteries that habitually enshrine a fog around the meting out of justice on Wall Street. But there is one previous case that comes to mind where Goldman Sachs made out very well under the Kindly Uncle treatment of the Federal Reserve.

Carmen Segarra was a bank examiner with a law degree at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Segarra charged in a Federal lawsuit filed in October 2013 that she was told to change her negative examination of Goldman Sachs by her colleagues at the New York Fed, who she says also obstructed and interfered with her investigation. When Segarra refused to alter her findings, she was terminated in retaliation and escorted from the Fed premises according to her lawsuit.....

Segarra's Federal lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. Her Judge was Ronnie Abrams, wife of

Greg Andres, a partner at law firm Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP. The case was before the court from October 2013 until April 3, 2014 when Judge Abrams scheduled a telephone conference with both sides to advise that "**it had just come to her attention that her husband...was representing Goldman Sachs in an advisory capacity.**".....

**According to footnotes in the decision, Noone, the attorney for the New York Fed, also previously worked for the Davis Polk & Wardwell law firm, as did the Judge previously.**

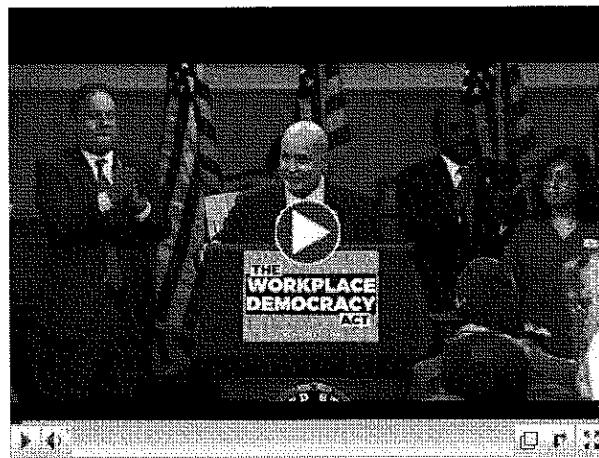
Less than three weeks after the Judge revealed her husband's advisory work for Goldman Sachs, **she threw out Segarra's case while refusing to provide any further details on her husband's involvement with Goldman Sachs.....**

At the time this all went down at the Fed, William (Bill) Dudley was its President. (Dudley is set to retire from the New York Fed on June 17.) Prior to joining the Fed, Dudley worked at **Goldman Sachs from 1986 to 2007 in senior positions.**

[Read the article here](#)

<https://www.sanders.senate.gov/>

## **Sanders, Pocan Lead Bill to Restore Workers' Rights**



## **Senator Sanders, Rep. Pocan, Introduce Workers Rights Bill**

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

WASHINGTON, May 9 - With public support for unions at 61 percent, the highest in 15 years, Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), Rep. Mark Pocan (D-Wis.) and their colleagues in the Senate and House introduced legislation Wednesday that would strengthen the middle class by restoring workers' rights to bargain for better wages, benefits and working conditions. The legislation has been endorsed by virtually every major union in America.

Unions lead to higher wages, better benefits and a more secure retirement. Union workers earn 26 percent more, on average, than non-union workers. Union workers are also half as likely to be victims of health and safety violations or of wage theft, 18 percent more likely to have health coverage, and 23 percent more likely to have either an employer sponsored pension or 401(k).

However, the rights of workers to join together and bargain for better wages, benefits, and working conditions have been severely undermined. Sixty years ago, nearly a third of all workers belonged to a union. Today, that number has gone down to less than 11 percent. When workers become interested in forming unions, 75 percent of private-sector employers hire outside consultants to run anti-union campaigns. An employee who engages in union organizing campaigns has a one in five chance of getting fired.

"We must no longer tolerate CEOs and managers who intimidate, threaten or fire pro-union workers, who threaten to move plants to China if their workers vote in favor of a union, and who refuse to negotiate a first contract with workers who have voted to join unions," Sanders said. "If we are serious about reducing income and wealth inequality and rebuilding the middle class, we have got to substantially increase the number of union jobs in this country.".....

The Workplace Democracy Act would make it easier for workers to join unions in a number of ways.

It would end right to work for less laws by repealing Section 14(b) of the Taft Hartley Act, which has allowed 28 states to pass legislation

eliminating the ability of unions to collect fair share fees from those who benefit from union contracts and activities.

Under the legislation, when a majority of workers in a bargaining unit sign valid authorization cards to join a union, they must have a union. Companies would not be allowed to deny or delay a first contract with workers who have voted to join a union. Unions would be given the right to have their voice heard through secondary boycotts and picketing. And workers would have the right to know when their company spends millions of dollars running anti-union campaigns.....

"When workers' rights to collective bargaining are attacked and undermined, corporations have enormous power over their workers and can keep wages so low that even full-time employees are still living in poverty," said Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.). "That is not how our economy is supposed to work. We need to start rewarding work again in this country, and that means making sure every worker has the right to join together to fight for the pay and protections they deserve. I am proud to fight for this important legislation with Senator Sanders, and I urge all of my colleagues in the Senate to join us in standing up for our workers."

The bill is cosponsored in the Senate by Sens. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.), Kamala Harris (D-Calif.), Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), Edward Markey (D-Mass.), Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.), Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.), Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.). Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.) introduced the bill with Pocan in the House.



Executive Intelligence Review

## **The Spider's Web Movie: London Finance Dominates the World, Ruins Economies, Including America's!**



## The Spider's Web

**The Spider's Web: Britain's Second Empire Documentary film, 2017**  
**Produced by Michael Oswald and John Christensen; 69 minutes.**

By Paul Gallagher

The recently released documentary, **The Spider's Web**, demonstrates the full destructive power of the British Empire-today.

This unusual film will prove those wrong who believe Britain long since ceased to be an empire and has become just a clever manipulator, or even a "puppy" of the great power of the United States. And likewise, those who think Britain's offshore banking havens such as the Cayman Islands represent a manageable problem like Swiss banking secrecy, and are an obsession only of economic equality/tax justice crusaders.

What is proven here is rather the truth that not only is London the central driver of geopolitical manipulations, coups, and wars against rival or rising powers. London is also the world's dominant financial power and has held the whip hand in making speculation, securitization, and drug-and-terror financing the main activities of global banking since the late 1960s.

### Drawing the World's Wealth to London

The Spider's Web is co-produced by Tax Justice Network founder John Christensen, and is based in part on a 2011 book, *Treasure Islands*, by expert on British offshore havens Nicholas Shaxson; an interview with Shaxson is one of its major elements. Christensen has the expertise of having "gone under cover" as advisor to the Queen's government of the island of Jersey for a number of years.....

It lays bare the tremendous damage the City of London and its banks have done to the world economy-and the U.S. economy-since the 1960s. In its title, its creators are not referring to a secondary British empire, but to the re-establishment of the British Empire after its decisive military demise in the 1950s.

The workings of the UK's dependent territories, the island financial havens Jersey, Guernsey, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Gibraltar, formerly Bahamas, etc. have been notorious for years. But the documentary's broad overview successfully creates an entirely different understanding of them for the viewer. London's havens, run directly by the Bank of England and City of London, have been drawing the assets of the world into the City of London's banks for 50 years. This has made London again globally dominant financially, able to loot the developing countries and to drive the U.S. economy, among others, toward speculation over lending, "financialization," highly risky "securitization," and deregulation of Wall Street.

The film's experts show that London has been able to drive deindustrialization of the American and European economies, particularly since London's "Big Bang" financial deregulation of October 1986, which called the shots for trans-Atlantic bank deregulation.

Moreover, by establishing the "bolt holes"-the Bank of England's own word for tax-evading island wealth-sinks-and the rules enabling financial corporations and multinationals to pay minimal taxes, and wealthy individuals none at all, London has driven wealth inequality to unprecedented levels, gorgeously rewarded non-productive investment of nations' savings, and triggered the growth of populism in opposition.

In short, London has driven down growth, productivity, and productive lending and investment in economies throughout the world for half a century. This is the same half-century in which productivity growth and technological breakthroughs have slowed to a virtual stop in the United States economy-to the great puzzlement of economists; its active workforce has begun to shrink; and wars and drug addictions have taken over.....

The Spider's Web presents a straightforward narrative of the creation of the "Second British Empire."

Begin with Clement Atlee, British Prime Minister 1945-51: "Over and over we have seen that there is another power than that which has its

seat at Westminster. The City of London, a convenient term for a collection of financial interests, is able to assert itself vs. the government of the country.".....

Productive investment in the industrialized countries of Europe and North America has been disincentivized at all levels, because it is regulated and taxed, while non-productive and securitized investment, particularly FIRE investment ("Financial Independence and Retiring Early"), has the offshore world at its disposal, unregulated and untaxed.....

London as the cause behind the screen-for the replacement of bank separation by bank deregulation, the looting of the developing countries, disinvestment in production, creation of "the 1%," terror financing-is exposed in The Spider's Web. Britain's Second Empire is what the new paradigm of the New Silk Road has emerged to replace. **Reinstatement of Glass-Steagall alone would begin the Empire's destruction.**



## American System Now

**The American Special Century of Economic Progress---The Franklin Roosevelt Infrastructure and Industrial Recovery, 1930-1950**



## President Franklin Roosevelt Dedicating the Bonneville Dam

This is part three of a four-part review of **Robert Gordon's The Rise and Fall of American Growth: The U.S. Standard of Living Since the Civil War**, an extremely useful book on the nation's physical economy.

### **1930-1950: The Golden Age of Productivity**

The *Rise and Fall of American Growth* singles out the 20-year period 1930-1950 as the centerpiece of the expansion of real production and productivity. Gordon calls it "The Great Leap Forward." He says that the period is not continuous, but can be broken up into several time frames. First is the plunging economy of the Great Depression period of 1929-1933, followed by the partial recovery of 1933-1937, the period coinciding with the New Deal. However, the removal of federal intervention in 1937 led to a precipitous fall in output and productivity and a steep recession in 1938, which, in turn, was followed by the World War II buildup, which Gordon correctly labels as "explosive."

The irony of this period, Gordon writes, is that although much of the economy had collapsed, innovation in new industries and technologies continued.

The TVA project, which transformed a 7-state area, is exemplary of the revolution in infrastructure created under the FDR Administration.

There were two aspects to developments in the 1930s. First was the massive surge in direct investment in infrastructure orchestrated by the Roosevelt administration. This included expansion of the highway network, and major projects such as the Tennessee Valley Authority, Golden Gate Bridge, Hoover Dam, the Bay Bridge, etc. This is clearly reflected in the growth of Total Factor Productivity (TFP) throughout the decade along with a rise in overall output. Second, innovations from earlier breakthroughs were made.

These included developments in urban infrastructure, water-purification projects, electricity-grid expansion, urban transit, and the like. There was also the further build-out of the auto industry, and related feeder industries, such as steel, machinery, auto parts, and components, etc. While Gordon spends too little time on the impact of the New Deal, and fails to fully elaborate the critical role of the new infrastructure platform in

increasing overall productivity, he does, however, fully comprehend the impact of new technologies in driving the upward trend of productivity.

Toward this end, he introduces the concept "General Purpose Technology (GPT)"; he attributes this term to authors Timothy Bresnahan and Manuel Trajtenberg, who wrote General Purpose Technologies "Engines of Growth?" (1992) as a working paper for the National Bureau of Economic Research. He says that fundamental inventions, such as electricity and internal combustion engines, can be labeled GPTs. They, in turn, spawn sub-inventions, which help drive the economy. Examples of GPT are: electricity and the internal combustion engine.

In this table, Gordon points out that electricity generated by industrial establishments grew by 57% between 1929 and 1941, even greater than the 31% from 1941 to 1950.

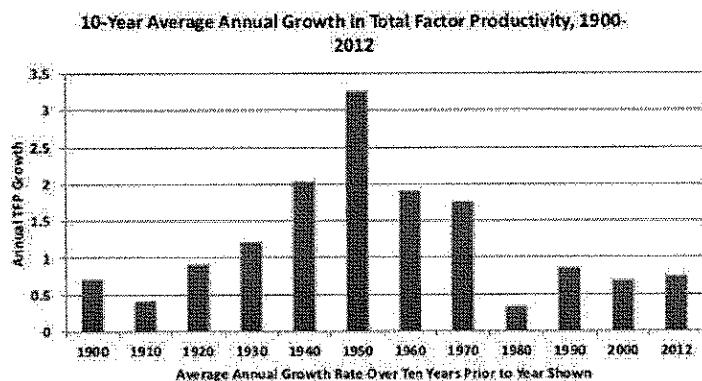
Electricity output continued to increase during the 1930s, '40s and beyond; during the war years, electricity from government-owned or -financed establishments surpassed those of privately owned sources. From 1929 to 1950, electricity production rose by 3.3 times.

By 1929, the United States produced 80% of the world's motor vehicles; the auto industry would then be converted to turn out the planes, tanks, trucks, and other vehicles deployed to win the war.

Breakthroughs in production engineering and new sub-inventions in the 1930s contributed to the increase in output and **Total Factor Productivity**. Gordon acknowledges the role of the Roosevelt Administration in fostering the climate for this expansion, but he misses the boat on the revolutionary role of the New Deal in shaping the outcome.

Electricity and automotive production expanded in the 1930s and was coupled with increased investments in new equipment. Spending in new structures (buildings, factories, etc.) remained depressed during the decade, but equipment investment rebounded sharply. New investment rose every year during the New Deal, accompanied by constant innovations. "Railroad locomotives, trucks, tractors, and industrial equipment manufactured in the late 1930s were all of substantially higher quality than their counterparts of the 1920s." .....

## How Did Innovation in the Past Compare with the Past 40 Years?



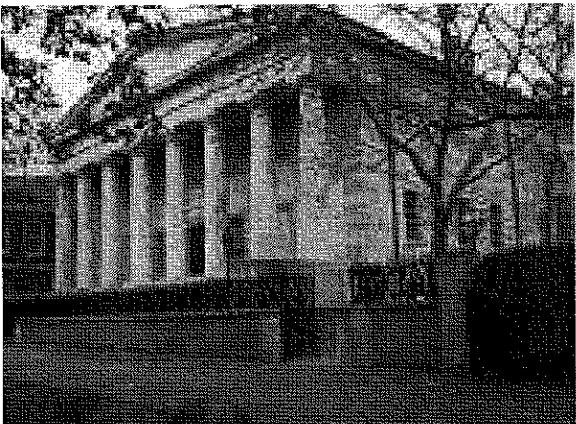
Gordon also emphasizes the impact of New Deal labor legislation on TFP calculations. The New Deal brought in the 40-hour work week; pay and benefits began to increase, along with mechanization. Gordon is convinced that this change contribution mightily to the increase in TFP during the 1930s, and beyond. The net result of this change during the New Deal period was the second-highest rate of TFP growth in U.S. history.

To Read the Rest of the Article and Subscribe, for free, to American SystemNow, please use the following link:  
<https://americansystemnow.com/>



American System Now

Draft Legislation to Create a Bank for Infrastructure



Second Bank of the United States, Philadelphia, Pa.

June 12-Once the separation between commercial banking and speculation has been re-established, the problem of a supply of cheap, long-term credit for the physical economy is easily solvable. Given the enormous needs for infrastructure building and rebuilding, this will require Federal credit and Federal credit guarantees. There are various means by which this can be achieved, ranging from the establishment of a new National Bank to replace the Federal Reserve, the creation of a bank specifically dedicated to infrastructure (similar to FDR's Reconstruction Finance Corporation), or even the use of powers of the Federal Reserve to supply credit to the economy.

It is critical that the parameters used for the issuance of such credit follow the principles laid out by Alexander Hamilton: They must add to the productivity (productive powers) of the nation as a whole. Thus, investments in infrastructure must be concentrated in the highest technological realm available-as in high-speed rail for transportation, nuclear power for power supplies, etc. In addition, funds must flow to frontier science-driver projects such as space exploration and nuclear fusion power, in order to provide the basis for the next generation of technological advance.

Historically, all the great leaps in productivity in the U.S. economy can be traced to the investments spurred by the great American System Presidents, from Washington to JFK in what could be called Great Projects. These ranged from roads (National Road) and canals (Erie Canal), to railways (Lincoln's Transcontinental Railroad), to water systems (FDR's great dam projects and the TVA), to rural electrification and the space program (JFK). The Federal government's role in these projects varied greatly, but in each case, provision was made for the debt

incurred to be paid off over the long-term, through increased productivity in the economy as well as dedicated funds for the payment of interest.

## **DRAFT LEGISLATION**

### **To Create a Bank of the United States for Infrastructure and Manufacturing**

#### **SECTION I: FINDINGS AND PURPOSES**

- a) To return to a policy of building modern economic infrastructure and productivity which it has lacked for half a century, the United States should return to a Hamiltonian credit and banking system as under the original Bank of the United States; the Second Bank of the United States; the 1841 Fiscal Bank of the United States; the Lincoln Administration Banking Acts of 1863 and 1864; and the Roosevelt Administration's Agricultural Adjustment Act and Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Alexander Hamilton's bank and credit policies were extremely successful whenever used in the advancement of productivity and production.....
- c) Under restored Glass-Steagall regulation, the establishment of a Bank of the United States operating as a commercial bank, will restore the valid profit to the commercial banking system which arises from manufacturing, industry, increasing productivity of lands and soils, and the building of new, technologically advanced infrastructure which promotes these.
- d) It is a purpose of the United States Congress in creating a third Bank of the United States, to return to the level of progress of the United States "golden age of productivity," 1935-65, when multi-factor productivity advanced by 3-4% annually, in contrast to less than 0.5% annually over the past decade.

[Read the Entire Bill Here](#)

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Stuart Rosenblatt, 103 Mayfair Dr., Leesburg, VA 20176

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**From:** Courtney Cook  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2017 1:33 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** ALEC Registration Now LIVE!



## **Registration is now LIVE for the** **ALEC 2017 Spring Task Force Summit!**

The ALEC 2017 Spring Task Force Summit will be held in the heart of southeast, C  
Join us for this one day meeting as ALEC members gather to discuss and exchange  
Register now and be a part of the conversation!

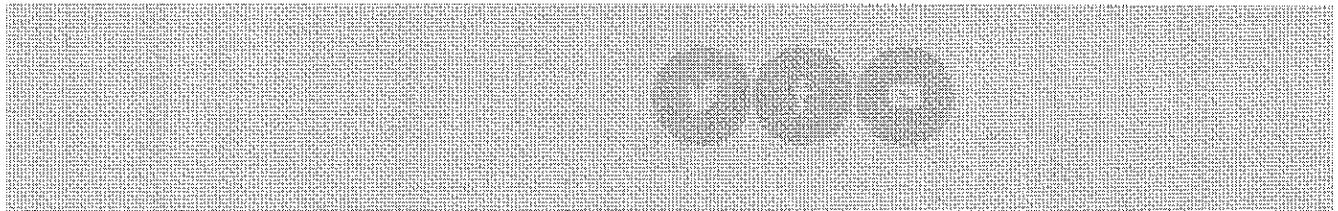
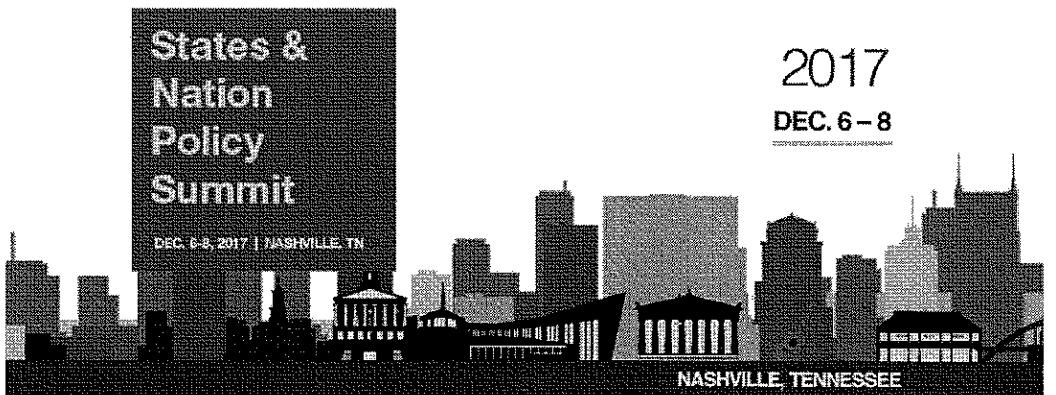


Exciting changes are happening at ALEC! As a result, you many notice a change in o  
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phone

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## Save-the-Date for ALEC 2017 Events



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**From:** Courtney Cook  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 1, 2017 10:36 AM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** Register NOW - ALEC 2017 Spring Task Force Summit!



## **Register NOW for the ALEC 2017 Spring Task Force Summit!**

The ALEC Spring Task Force Summit is a one-day meeting designed to bring together to discuss and exchange policy proposals. This year the Spring Task Force Summit May 5th in the heart of southeast, Charlotte, NC.

### **What to expect at the 2017 Spring Task Force Summit:**

**Thursday, May 4**

1:00-5:00 PM - On-Site Registration Open

## **Friday, May 5**

7:00 AM-4:00 PM - On-Site Registration Open  
8:00 AM-12:00 PM - Sub-committee Meetings  
8:00 AM-12:00 PM - ALEC Training  
9:00 AM-12:00 PM - Joint Board of Directors and Private Enterprise Advisory Council  
12:30-1:30 PM - Task Force Lunches  
2:00-5:00 PM - Task Force Meetings  
5:00-6:00 PM - North Carolina Welcome Reception

**Register now and be a part of the conversation!**

**>> REGISTER NOW**

After you register, be sure to reserve your hotel room at the  
ALEC discounted rate!

Exciting changes are happening at ALEC! As a result, you may notice a change in our registration process. If you have any questions, please let us know by contacting our events team at (571) 482-5155.

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## **Save-the-Date for ALEC 2017 Events**





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**From:** Lynette  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 5, 2017 2:24 AM  
**Subject:** HJR2 - Legacy

Dear Representative,

The Convention of States Project is a **marketing schema** existing to bring an Article V convention to fruition. They are **conflating the issue** of state conventions with an Article V convention.<sup>1</sup> They are not the same. You must learn what the opposition is saying FROM the opposition.

There are many credible scholars who disagree with the Convention of States Project. One example is Dr. Edwin Vieira Jr who holds 4 degrees from Harvard. For over 36 years he has been a practicing attorney specializing in cases that raise issues of constitutional law. **Dr. Vieira has successfully argued or briefed cases leading to landmark decisions in the U.S. Supreme Court.** Vieira has written numerous monographs and articles in scholarly journals, and lectured throughout the country. Surely we can agree Vieira is a respected, capable and credible source. This is a 20 minute candid interview with Dr. Vieira discussing the Convention of States Project's application. Vieira "unpacks" it citing the flaws. **Even if you disagree with him there is no way around this being "a boondoggle heyday for lawyers."**

"Dr. Edwin Vieira on Article V"  
Here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ymlgk4JA5PQ>

This clip is of COSProject's **Mr. Mark Meckler** testifying last year in a Montana committee hearing. The Republican Chairman asked Mr. Meckler questions about our amendment history and ratification that **Mark Meckler admitted he did not know.** What else doesn't he know?

"State Legislatures can be bypassed"  
3:30 min.  
Here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HZrJeaEZfF8>

COSProject's Attorney Robert Natelson cites the *Leser v Garnett* ruling incorrectly saying the Necessary and Proper Clause does not apply to Article V when **the ruling calls the Art V process a "federal function."** Delegates are NOT state controlled as he said. Please listen to Robert Natelson in this 4 min video debunking. The ruling is linked in the description.

"Did Natelson Lie about Article V?"  
4 mins.

Here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vo00q3T6uq4>

The Assembly Of State Legislatures (ASL) is working to bring an Article V convention to fruition. The Convention of States Project has announced the ASL news on their website. COSProject's Senior Legislative Advisor, Utah's Rep. Ken Ivory is involved in it as well as others supporting the COS. Pro convention leader, Indiana's Pro Tempor David Long is a founder of the organization and on the Executive Committee. Senator Long authored and passed one of the first Art V convention companion legislations conceding what the opposition has been saying. It states how Indiana will proceed "**unless established otherwise" by the convention.**

Indiana's companion legislation Act No. 225; Chapter 3, Sec. 3 (a) (2)  
"Unless established otherwise by the rules and procedures of an Article V convention, "  
Bill info  
here: <http://www.in.gov/apps/lsa/session/billwatch/billinfo?year=2013&request=getBill&docno=225>

***Please listen to ASL member and COSProject champion say they are all "speculating" on the process and that their rules are NOT BINDING on the convention or its delegates.***

"BREAKING! Legislator Admits Con Con Lie!"  
2 mins  
Here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RTANv-VkEaM&feature=youtu.be>

ASL website here: <http://www.assemblystatelegislatures.com/executive-committee.html>

As thoughtfully as it was said, the ASL is another **marketing ploy** to allay concerns and trick folks into supporting an Article V convention that has been correctly warned about for decades.

Who is right? **Who will settle the disputes?** COSProject's attorney Robert Natelson says there will be legal battles all along the way.<sup>2</sup> It is ironic that one of the foremost complaints COSProject leader Michael Farris has is with our judicial system and **the rogue Supreme Court<sup>3</sup> - the same Supreme Court that will rule on these matters!**

For the Convention of States Project's plan to go the way they say, they must be right 100% of the time and win every legal battle. **For it all to fall apart the opposition only has to be right once.**

Please work to stop any and all efforts working to bring an Art. V convention to fruition. The application language only serves to meet the Article V convention threshold for Congress to convene the convention. Make no mistake, **the convention**

does not need to “runaway.” **COSProject Staff Counsel says their application opens up 90% of the Constitution for change.** There’s no need to runaway. Doubly so when you understand that “limit” does not mean things are “reduced.”

“Convention of States Admit Article V Application not Limited.= 2

11:11 mins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kCApyUYvuRE&index=24&list=PLEknTV2zZz6vAFzX1a2qPiAkml76B2ACi>

There are some well-intended people. There are those passing the buck. And then there are some seeking to go down in history. I can’t help but wonder if the eagerness for legacy is stopping some from realizing **their legacy might be that they were easily duped.**

**How can anyone trust this process at this time?**

How can we trust we will know good amendments considering all the manipulation?

How do we know that ratification will not be plagued with the same shenanigans and misguidance?

I urge you to vote no to HJR2 and work against all applications and efforts working to bring an Article V convention to fruition at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynette Indiana

Citations:

- (1) The Convention of States Project is a lobbying organization that exists to bring an Article V convention to fruition. They are intentionally **conflating the issue of “state conventions” and the Constitution’s Article V “convention for proposing amendments”**. Those things are not the same. It does not help the confusion when over the decades we have all casually used the word “call” incorrectly when referring to the states’ actions of filing applications for an Article V convention, and many still do. This matters in context of the delegate companion bills because you cannot build on a faulty foundation.

States have constitutionally gotten together over the centuries at “conventions” to discuss a wide variety of issues. That is fine. What states have not, and cannot do is “call” the Constitution’s Article V convention for proposing amendments and therefore they cannot control the “convention for proposing Amendments.” If the states do not control the convention they cannot control the delegate selection or the delegates.

(Even the COSProject's Attorney and considered Art V convention "expert" Robert Natelson agrees the delegates write the rules for the convention citing "state conventions." (Here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZvVy\\_42Cac](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZvVy_42Cac). Notice he mentions the ASL's rules that were debunk above and are *rules that the COSProject themselves did not even use* during their mock convention.)

The Constitution’s Article V language reads that states may “apply” to Congress and CONGRESS “calls” the convention and that convention is at Congress’s discretion. That is reinforced by the Constitution’s Article 1, Sec. 8, Clause 18, the Necessary and Proper Clause.

There has never been an Art V convention for proposing amendments called. Never. And there is only one Art V convention that will propose amendments to the U.S. Constitution and we (the opposition) assure you everyone is talking about the same process.

We do not need esoteric knowledge to **grammatically breakdown Article V**. If we strip away the parts in the clause, then, the subject, verb, and direct object would read "*Congress...shall call a Convention...? D.*" "Convention of States" is nowhere in there.

COSProject has coined this “convention of states” jargon to infer they are one and the same and that the states would “control” such a convention, and to avoid the commonly used term “con con,” which JBS, Eagle Forum, and others have successfully warned of the dangers for over a quarter century. The “*Convention of States Project*” had to rebrand what they are selling to confuse folks and allay their fears of a potentially unlimited convention.

## (2) "Say No to an Article V Convention with Peter Boyce"

Professor Robert Natelson speaking to ALEC members saying, ... "I would like to remind you of the possibility of lawsuits all along the line. Anything the convention does that is even arguably legal can and will be challenged in the courts and contrary to what you may have heard, the court is willing to accept Article V disputes."

25 second section tagged to start at the 48:31 min mark

Here: <https://youtu.be/4P2xRwipCbo?t=48m31s>

(3) COSProject co-founder Michael Farris wants to change our judicial system to be like the European Courts of Human Rights. Adding judges to the Supreme Court will not prevent them from making rogue decisions contrary to the "newly-amended" Constitution, nor will it make Congress "check" those rogue decisions by legislatively reversing those decisions as they currently have the power to do, or in extreme cases, by impeaching those justices on the court who insist on violating their oaths, **as they currently have the power to do.**

"Michael Farris ↗ 0 Ironic Plan To Remake The Supreme Court"

By Brian Tashman | March 4, 2014

Here: <http://www.rightwingwatch.org/post/michael-farris-ironic-plan-to-remake-the-supreme-court/>

FDR's "Court Packing" Scheme Now an Inspiration for the Convention of States

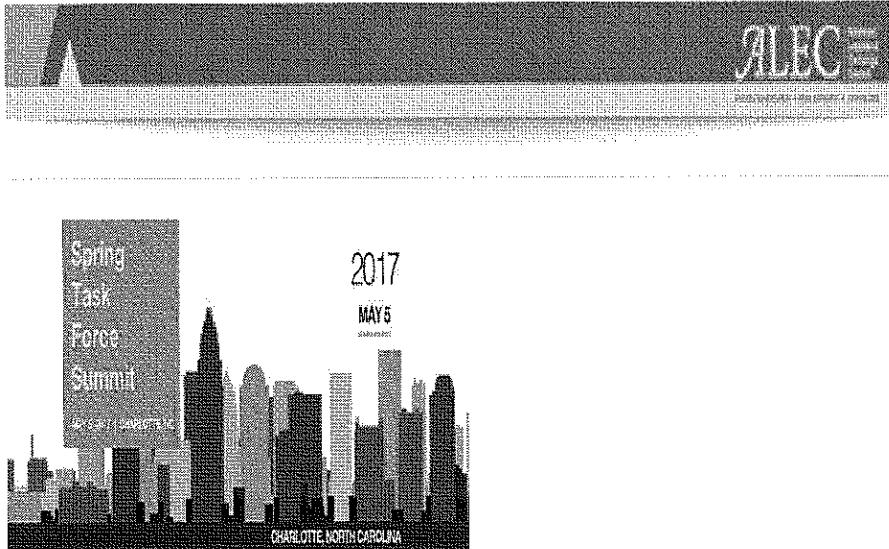
MICHELLE HORSTMAN ↗ 0 JULY 3, 2015

Here: <http://freedomoutpost.com/fdrs-court-packing-scheme-now-an-inspiration-for-the-convention-of-states/>

(I apologize or the ads on this cite but Google identifies its reputation as "trustworthy")

end.

**From:** Courtney Cook  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 8, 2017 3:47 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** See What's Happening at the ALEC Spring Meeting!



The logo features a stylized city skyline silhouette against a dark background. Overlaid text includes "Spring Task Force Summit" on the left, "2017" at the top right, "MAY 5" below it, and "CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA" at the bottom.

**Have you heard...**

The ALEC Communications and Technology Task Force is excited to hear from Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission, Micheal O'Reilly. Commissioner O'Reilly comes from an extensive background in banking, technology, transportation, trade and commerce issues. You do not want to miss this!

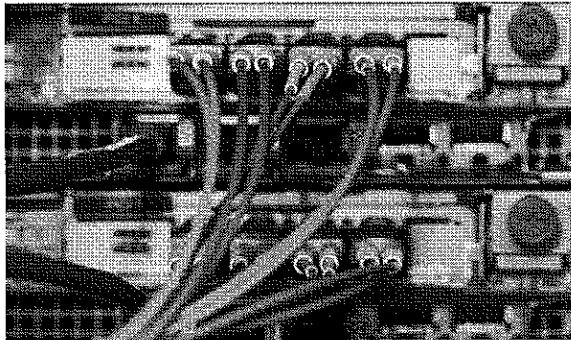
**Be on the Lookout**

**Registration for the ALEC Annual Meeting will open on April 3.**

**Save-the-Date**

**Annual Meeting**  
Denver, Co

July 19-21, 2017



**States and  
Nation Policy  
Summit**  
Nashville, TN

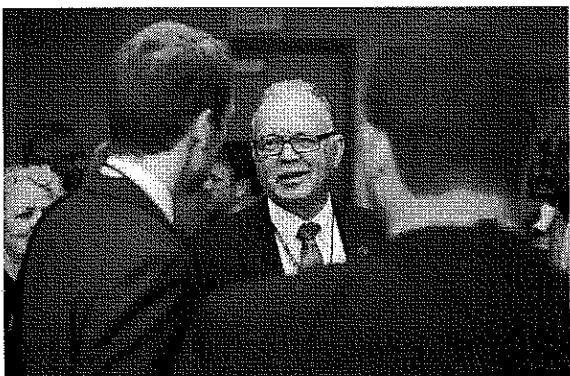
Dec. 6-8, 2017

[Have a  
Question?](#)

[\*\*Contact our  
events team!\*\*](#)

**Get there early...**

ALEC is excited to host a reception for our Center for Innovation and Technology. Grab your badge and join us before you hit the town for dinner on Thursday, May 4 from 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM at the hotel.



**Still need to Register?**

Hurry before our early bird pricing ends  
on  
**APRIL 4!**

**>> REGISTER NOW**

Have you make a hotel reservation at our  
discounted rate yet?  
**BOOK NOW AND SAVE!**



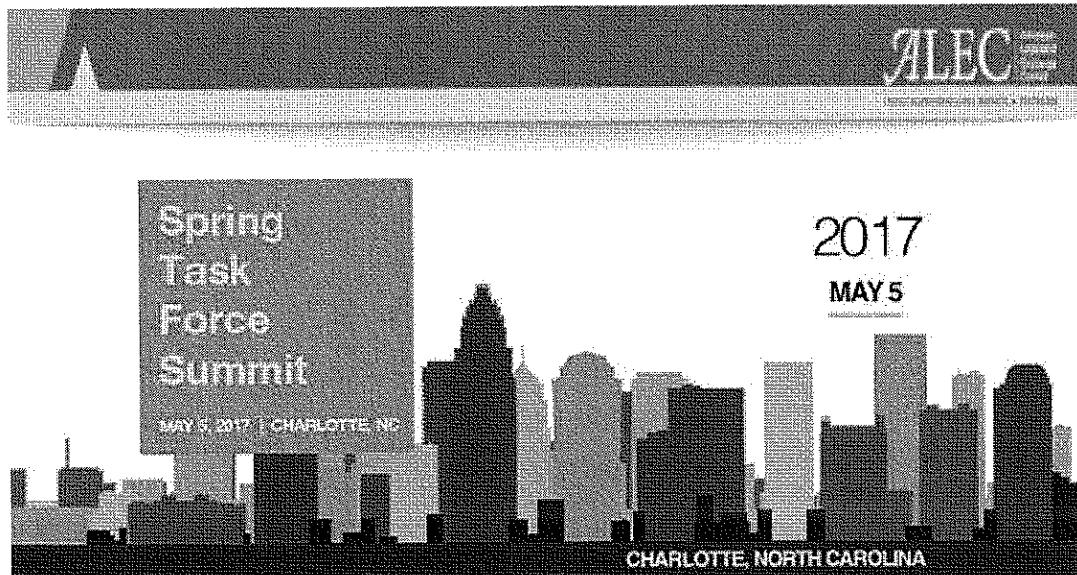
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Arlington, VA 22202

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**From:** Courtney Cook  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:36 AM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** Policy Spotlight for ALEC Spring Meeting!



— THE LATEST ON THE ALEC 2017 SPRING TASK FORCE SUMMIT —



### Policy Spotlight: Health and Human Services

Wondering how your state will be affected by the repeal and replacement of the Affordable Care Act? Join members from Capitol Hill, the Administration and the Task Force on Health and Human Services to discuss the latest research and ideas that will best position states to implement market-based reforms. Don't miss your chance to find out the best solution for your state—bring your ideas and questions.

**>> REGISTER NOW**

*Get Registered and Join  
the Conversation*

Don't miss the chance to join ALEC in Charlotte, NC for this one-day meeting that brings together private and public leaders from across the country. Come and be a part of the conversation as we discuss research and solutions to current policy issues facing the states!

**THE WESTIN**

CHARLOTTE

*Don't forget to Reserve your  
Room!*

Be sure and get your room at the host hotel while you still can. ALEC has a discounted rate at the Westin Charlotte of \$189 just for you!

Book your room NOW!

Questions? Contact our Events Team!

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**From:** Courtney Cook  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017 7:41 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** ALEC Spring Meeting - Agenda News!



The more you know...



**Registration Early Bird Deadline**  
The early bird deadline for the ALEC Spring Task Force Summit is **April 4**. Register today and save!

**Agenda News, Workshop Added:**  
**"Delivering the Tech Future: How Wired Networks Power an Unwired World"**

Whether you're sending a critical email to a colleague, hailing an Uber, reading the latest tweet from President Trump or listening to your favorite song on Spotify, you're probably using an unwired digital device or computer. You might even be right now! But what actually makes those connections work? And what are the emerging issues that are confronting state and local policy makers?

We'll explore the implications these issues have on state and local policies and your state's overarching technology infrastructure goals.

Want to know more? See the full description on our agenda.

[>> REGISTER NOW](#)

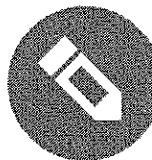
**Have you made your hotel reservation?**

ALEC has a room for you! Make your reservation today at the Westin Charlotte. Enjoy our discounted rate of \$189 until **April 11**.

**Book now!**

**Mark your Calendar!**

Our Annual Meeting Registration will open on **April 3**. Join us in Denver, CO for a great meeting!



**Policy Spotlight...**

**Jonathon Paul Hauenschild, J.D.**  
Director, Task Force on Communications & Technology

We are preparing for an insightful and exciting Task Force Meeting. We have already confirmed Federal Communications Commissioner Michael O'Rielly as our keynote speaker for lunch. It will be a great time to learn what the FCC has done since President Trump named Ajit Pai Chairman, the vision of the FCC moving forward with a majority of the commissioners supporting free market approaches, and will be a time when you can ask the Commissioner questions about FCC operations.

**Are you a Legislative Member of ALEC?**

Take advantage of our reimbursement program to help offset your cost to attend our Spring Task Force Summit. If eligible, you can receive up to \$350 in travel reimbursement and two nights? 9 hotel stay.

Please contact [Spencer Chretien](#) for more information.

Questions? Contact our events team!

[>> REGISTER NOW](#)

**Remember!**

**Spring Task Force Summit**  
**Early Bird Deadline:**  
April 4  
**Housing Deadline:**  
April 11

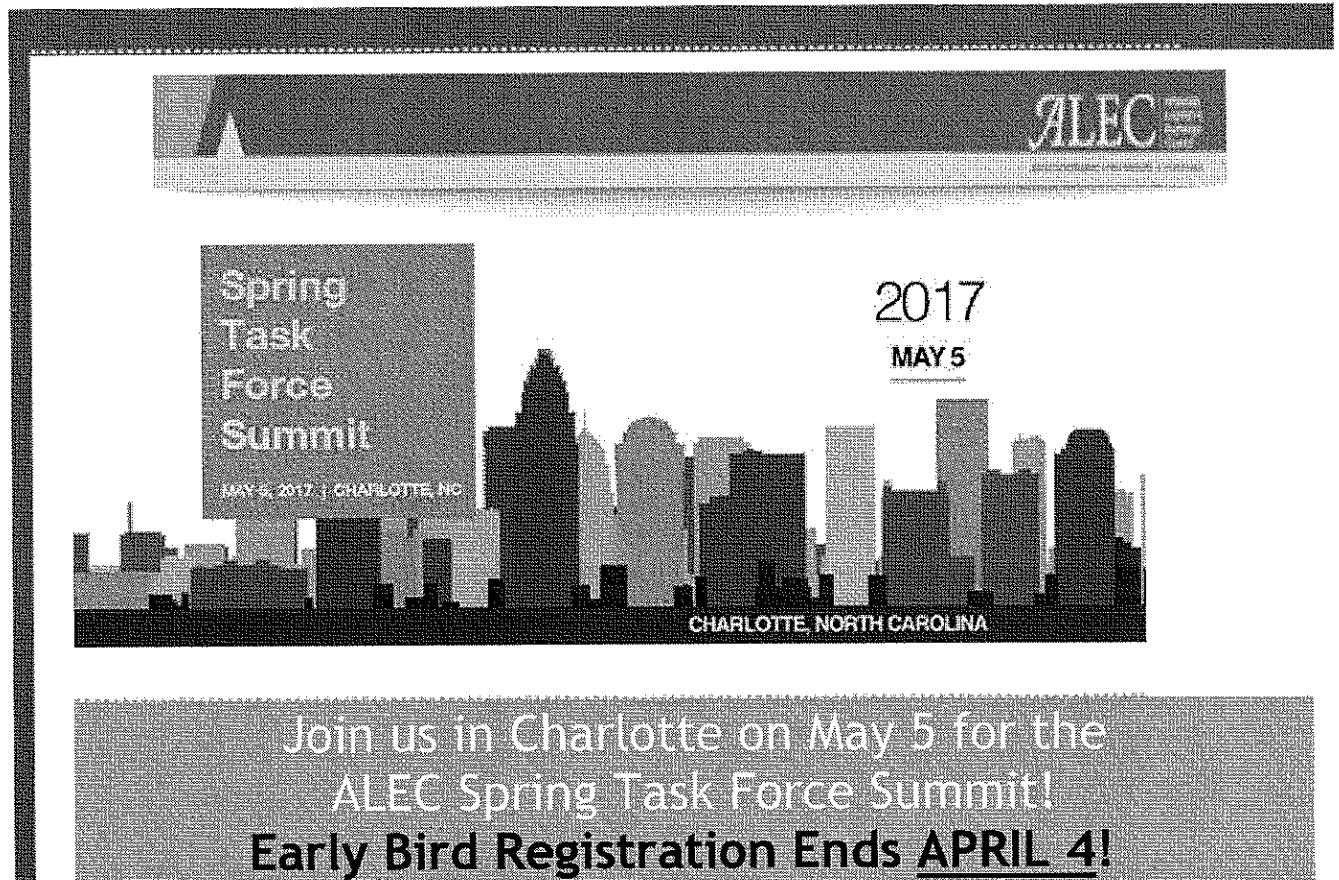
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**From:** Courtney Cook  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 7:40 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** Don't Wait Till It's Too Late!



The email header features the ALEC logo at the top right. Below it is a banner for the "Spring Task Force Summit" held on "MAY 5" in "CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA". The banner includes a silhouette of the Charlotte skyline.

**Join us in Charlotte on May 5 for the  
ALEC Spring Task Force Summit!  
Early Bird Registration Ends APRIL 4!**

**Policy Spotlight -**



## **Education and Workforce Development Task Force**

Join the Education and Workforce Development Task Force as we host sub-committee meetings on Higher Education, Workforce Development and our Joint Education-Tax Subcommittee. We will be continuing our work on education choice, accountability, and free speech on campus. Given the current and ongoing debate regarding free speech on campus you won't want to miss the discussion!

Inez Feltscher Stepman  
Director, Education and Workforce Development Task Force

---

## **ALEC Legislative Members - Take Advantage of our ALEC CARE Training!**

Want to know what some ALEC Legislative members consider one of the most valuable benefits of membership?

Come see a constituent relationship management system that will transform the way you interact with your constituents. Better yet, it's free as a member benefit.

ALEC will host demonstrations Thursday, May 4 through Saturday, May 6 in Charlotte. [RSVP to Ashley Varner](#).

[See more events on our agenda...](#)

**>> REGISTER NOW**

Don't miss your chance to save! One week left  
for Early Bird registration.  
Ends on April 4

Guarantee your spot today at the host hotel!  
Take advantage of the ALEC discounted rate  
of \$189 until April 11.

[Book now!](#)

**THE WESTIN**  
CHARLOTTE

**Don't forget to mark your calendars -  
Annual Meeting registration opens April 3!**



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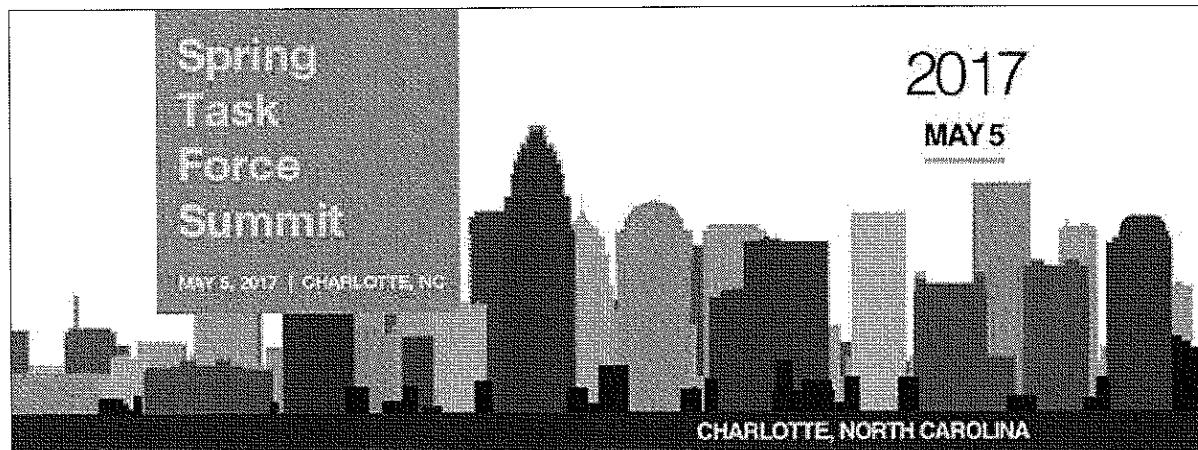
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**From:** Courtney Cook  
**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2017 5:54 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** ALEC - Final HOURS for Early Bird Rates!



## Early Bird Rates End TODAY for ALEC Spring Task Force Summit!

**>> REGISTER NOW**

### No time to register on-line? Let us help!

Register for the Summit in 3 easy steps:

1. Have your credit card on hand
2. Call 571-482-5155 (No answer? We're probably helping someone on the other line. Leave a message and we will call you back.)

### Need to make your hotel reservation?

You still have time to take advantage of our discounted rate of \$189 at the Westin Charlotte. Housing deadline is **April 11.**

**Make your reservation today!**

3. Answer a few questions

**Don't wait to call - Early Bird**  
**Rates end TODAY!**

**THE WESTIN**  
CHARLOTTE

**Remember to register for the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting.**  
**Registration is now open!**

**Questions? Contact our Event Staff**

Courtney Cook | CCook@alec.org | ALEC | 2900 Crystal Drive, 6th Floor |  
Arlington, VA 22202

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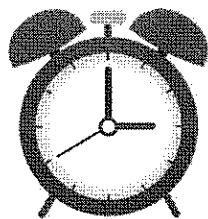
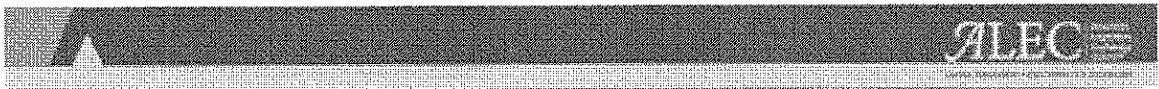
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**From:** Courtney Cook  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2017 2:43 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** Today's the Day!

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*Today's the Day!  
ALEC room block ends Today!*

= 9



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## Book your room now for \$189!

The good news is the ALEC Spring Task Force Summit is only 3 weeks away! The bad news is today is the last day to take advantage of the ALEC room block rate in Charlotte, NC!

**Book Now!**

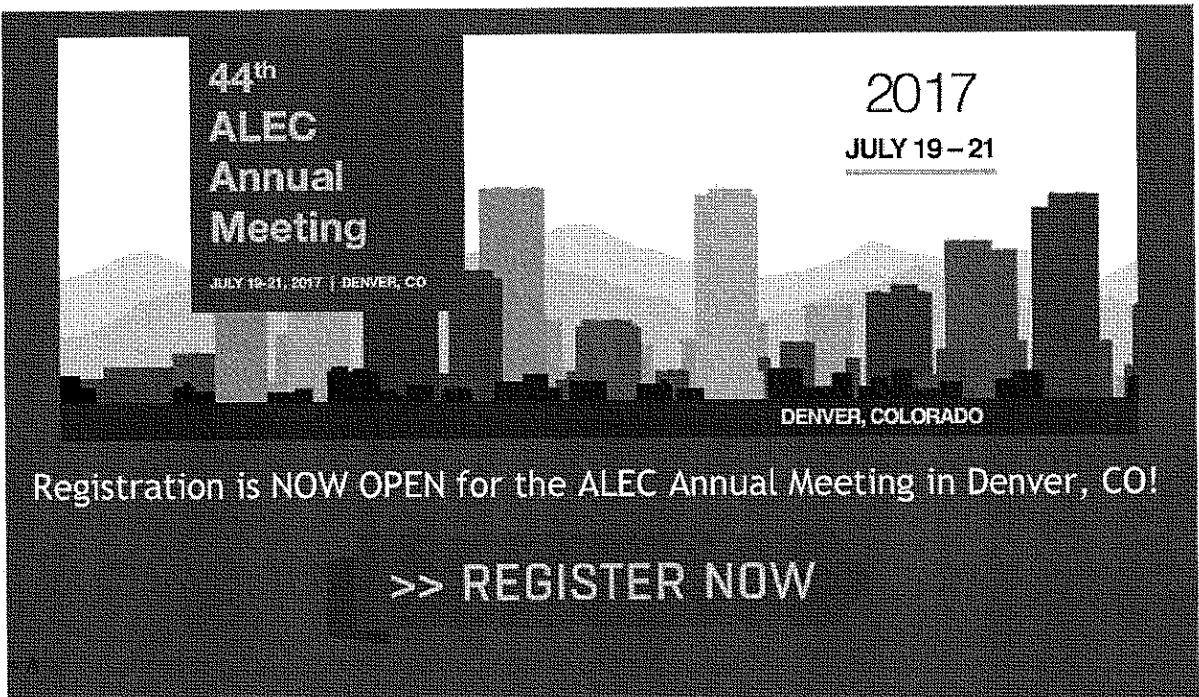
If you have already reserved your room, THANK YOU!

---

Still need to register for the ALEC Spring Task Force Summit?

You have time.

**>> REGISTER NOW**



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**From:** Courtney Cook  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017 7:40 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** ALEC - Spring Meeting UPDATE!

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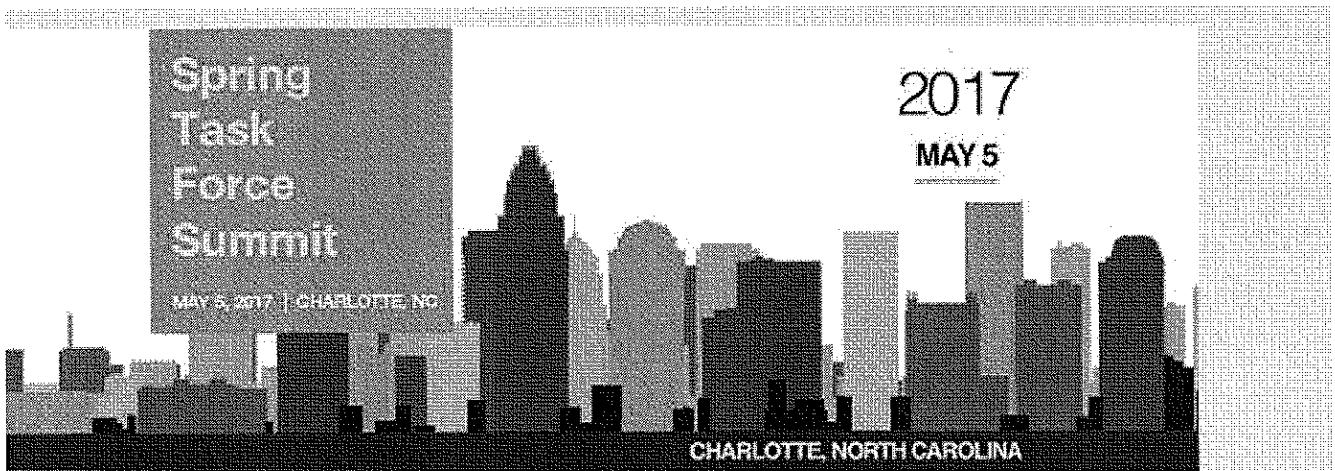
**Have you Heard?**

ALEC is excited to announce that our room block has been EXTENDED! You now have until Monday to reservation and receive the discounted rate of \$189.

Get your reservation while you still can!

**BOOK NOW!!**

**THE WESTIN**  
CHARLOTTE



## Model Policies -

As the Spring Task Force Summit nears, please make sure to take a look at the task force materials below. Each task force web-page are agendas for the task force meetings and task force subcommittees, as well as model policies for consideration.

Review the draft policies, speakers and other agenda items for each task force meeting below:

- [Civil Justice](#)
- [Commerce, Insurance and Economic Development](#)
- [Communications and Technology](#)
- [Criminal Justice Reform](#)
- [Education and Workforce Development](#)
- [Energy, Environment & Ag.](#)
- [Health and Human Services](#)
- [Tax and Fiscal Policy](#)

[Click Here for the Complete List of Model Policies](#)

**>> REGISTER NOW**

Have you registered for the Spring Task Force Summit?



Are you a Legislative Member?

Don't miss this great opportunity to be a part of the conversation and help make state-based solutions!

No time to register on-line?  
Let us help!

Register for the Summit in 3 easy steps:

1. Have your credit card on hand
2. Call 571-482-5155 (No answer?  
We're probably helping someone on the other line. Leave a message and we will call you back.)
3. Answer a few questions

Take advantage of our reimbursement offset your cost to attend our Spring Ta If eligible, you can receive up to \$350 i reimbursement and two nights' hotel si

Please contact Spencer Chretien for mo

Questions? Contact our Events Team.

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**From:** Jeff Lambert  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2017 11:07 AM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** URGENT: Register NOW, Room Block Ending!

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The advertisement features a black and white silhouette of a city skyline against a dark background. Overlaid on the skyline is text for the "ALEC Spring Task Force Summit". The text includes "Spring Task Force Summit" in a large, bold, sans-serif font, "MAY 5, 2017" in a smaller font, and "CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA" at the bottom. Below the skyline, a large, bold, sans-serif font reads "Register NOW to secure your room before the room block extension ends!".

**ALEC Spring Task Force Summit!**



When: May 5, 2017

Where: The Westin Charlotte - \$189 a night

Why: To advance and promote the principles of limited government, free markets and federalism

Questions: Contact our Events Team

>> REGISTER NOW <<

Reserve your room now!

THE WESTIN  
CHARLOTTE

## Are you a Legislative Member of ALEC?

Take advantage of our reimbursement program to help offset your cost to attend our Spring Task Force Summit. If eligible, you can receive up to \$350 in travel reimbursement and two nights' hotel stay.

Please contact Spencer Chretien for more information.

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Jeff Lambert | jlambert@alec.org | American Legislative Exchange Council | 2900  
Crystal Drive, 6th Floor | Arlington, VA 22202  
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**From:** Courtney Cook  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 19, 2017 1:19 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** The Number of Legislators...

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The promotional graphic features a city skyline silhouette against a dark background. On the left, text reads "Spring Task Force Summit" and "MAY 5, 2017 | CHARLOTTE, NC". On the right, it says "2017" and "MAY 5" above "CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA". Below this graphic, the text "Did you hear..." is followed by a list of seven policies.

**Top 7 Policies Being Discussed ...**

- Vehicle Platooning for Safety and Efficiency Act
- Resolution Regarding Property-Assessed Clean Energy Programs

and join the conversation on the issues that matter most to you.

=A

Have YOU registered?

**>> REGISTER NOW**

=9

- The Breach of Personal Information Notification Act
- Self-Sufficiency in Medicaid Act
- Resolution in Support of Nonprofit Donor Privacy
- Forming Open and Robust University Minds (**Forum**) Act
- Principles on On-line Privacy

[READ MORE ➔](#)

Center for  
Innovation and  
Technology  
Reception

=A

*May 4*

Getting to Charlotte early on Thursday, May 4? Check-in at the registration desk and join the reception for our Center for Innovation and Technology from 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

[MORE ON THE AGENDA ➔](#)

**Workshop: "Delivering the Tech Future: How Wired Networks Power an Unwired World"**

*May 5*

Whether you're sending a critical email to a colleague, hailing an Uber, reading the latest tweet from President Trump or listening to your favorite song on Spotify, you're probably using an unwired digital device or computer. You might even be right now! But what actually makes those connections work? And what are the emerging issues that are confronting state and local policy makers?

We'll explore the implications these issues have on state and local policies and your state's overarching technology infrastructure goals.

[READ MORE ➔](#)

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Come Join Us

ALEC Annual Meeting is OPEN for registration

= A  
Join us in Denver, CO for this policy-packed meeting!

[LEARN MORE »](#)

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Questions? Contact our Events Team

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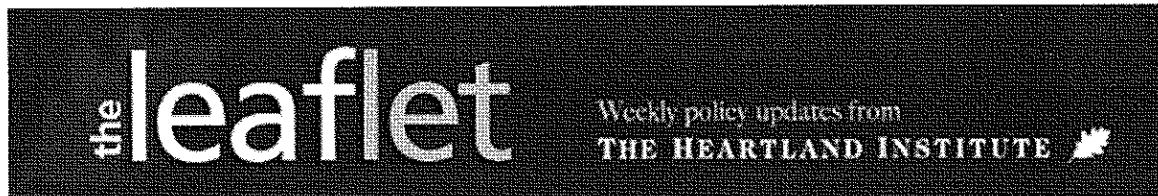
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**From:** Heartland Institute: The Government Relations Team  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2017 2:33 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** The Leaflet - Tax Day, Income Taxes, and Constitutional Amendments

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## Tax Day, Income Taxes, and Constitutional Amendments

On April 18, Americans suffered through another Tax Day, a time when many taxpayers angrily point to the federal government's passage of the 16th Amendment as the root cause of their dismay. While the federal government deserves plenty of blame come tax season, taxpayers shouldn't forget state legislatures played a significant role in the ratification of the income tax amendment.

In 1890, the Tariff Act, otherwise known as the McKinley Tariff, was passed, imposing steep tariffs that eventually resulted in the enactment of the Wilson-Gorman Tariff Act in 1894. Wilson-Gorman reduced tariff rates and introduced a 2 percent income tax. In 1895, the Supreme Court declared the Wilson-Gorman Tariff Act income tax unconstitutional in *Pollock v. Farmers Loan & Trust Co.*

In 1909, Congress passed a resolution approving an amendment to the U.S. Constitution for the establishment of a federal income tax. Prior to becoming law, amendments must be ratified by three-fourths of the states. It would take four years for the necessary threshold to be met, when in February 1913, Delaware became the 36th state to approve the resolution, thereby enabling ratification. A total of six states did not participate in ratification.

The history of the income tax and its ratification is of great significance, because many states are currently proposing legislation aiming to amend the U.S. Constitution for the inclusion of a federal balanced budget amendment.

Though all the amendments passed in the nation's history thus far have been initiated by Congress, the Constitution allows for states to approve amendments under Article V of the

Constitution, provided that two-thirds, or 34 states, pass applications to call a convention to propose amendments to the Constitution.

Currently, an Article V movement calling for a balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution is gaining traction. At the end of 2016, a total of 28 states had passed resolutions to apply for an Article V convention for the purpose of proposing a balanced budget amendment.

In 2017, Arizona, Idaho, Kentucky, Montana, South Carolina, Wisconsin, and Wyoming have introduced resolutions applying for an Article V convention for the purpose of a balanced budget amendment. Arizona and Wyoming successfully passed their resolutions. Maryland rescinded all its previously approved Article V applications.

In addition to the states have passed or are considering approving an application for balanced budget amendment, Arizona passed a resolution that provides for a planning convention to take place on September 12, 2017.

The call for a balanced budget amendment stems from the increasing level of federal debt and the great deal of power seized from the states by the federal government in recent years. In a recent *Research & Commentary*, Government Relations Coordinator Lindsey Stroud reported, “As of February 3, the United States held over \$19 trillion in total public debt, a figure that is expected to grow over the next decade.” Stroud also found the “federal government has failed to address the mounting debt crisis, and the 115th Congress approved in January a nearly \$10 trillion increase of publicly held debt.”

It is important for state lawmakers to understand the significant role states played in the establishment of the federal income tax and the responsibility they have to support policies that will hold the federal government accountable. State legislators should use the opportunity presented by the Article V movement as a vehicle to reestablish states’ rights and to ensure the federal government acts in a more fiscally responsible manner in the future.

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## WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON

### Budget & Tax

#### Research & Commentary: Nebraska Tax Reform

= In this *Research & Commentary*, Senior Policy Analyst Matthew Glans examines a proposal to reform Nebraska’s individual and corporate tax rates. Glans says, “At first glance, Nebraska’s tax system appears competitive. According to the Tax Foundation, state residents pay \$3,853 per capita in state and local taxes, ranking the state 17th highest in the nation and comparable to neighboring Colorado and Kansas.” Read more

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### Education

## Colleges Replacing Civics Education with Progressive Activism, Study Finds

In this article for *School Reform News*, Higher-Education Editor Jane S. Shaw writes about a 523-page report by the National Association of Scholars (NAS) detailing the history and current state of “new civics,” which appears under labels such as “civic learning,” “democratic engagement,” and other titles that imply political action. The heart of what NAS calls “new civics” is = 2service learning.” Although this term suggests students ↗ voluntary involvement in community activities to help others, it is much more than that. Not only does service learning merge education and activism, Shaw writes, but from its start in the 1960s, its goal has been to permeate the academy with the radical political goals of the far left. With its innocuous name and emphasis on volunteerism, service learning has quietly expanded throughout academia. [Read more](#)

## **Energy & Environment**

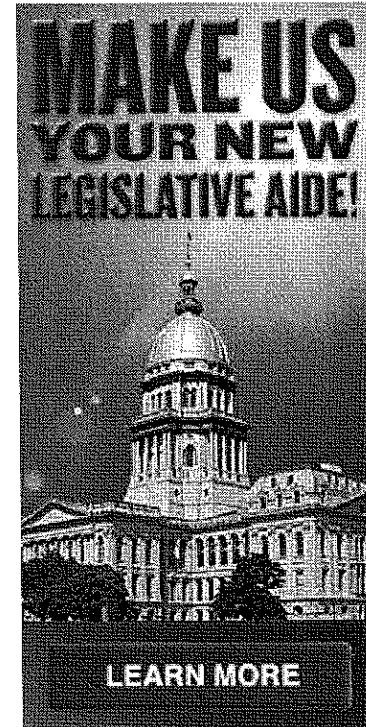
### Texas Sues EPA over Sulfur-Dioxide Rule Designations

In this article for *Environment & Climate News*, Michael McGrady writes about Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton’s filing of petitions in the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit challenging the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) decision to designate three areas in Texas as out of compliance with federal clean air standards for sulfur dioxide. In December 2016, EPA issued a final rule determining three areas in Texas failed to meet the federal one-hour standard for sulfur dioxide of 75 parts per billion established under 2010 revisions to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Each of the noncompliant areas has coal-fired power plants EPA says are the source of the sulfur-dioxide pollution. Paxton’s suits claims EPA’s sulfur-dioxide attainment designations are flawed, and the State of Texas says monitoring results in the areas in question show them to be in or near compliance with federal sulfur-dioxide standards. [Read more](#)

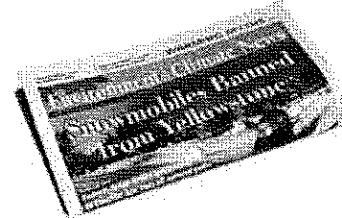
## **Health Care**

### Research & Commentary: Maine Should Reject Maintenance of Certification

In recent years, many states have sought reforming maintenance of certification laws (MOC), which require physicians to complete additional testing and programs to maintain board certification. In this *Research & Commentary*, Senior Policy Analyst Matthew Glans examines MOC reform efforts in Maine. Glans says “providing certification for doctors has become a profitable industry,” and while MOCs were designed to ensure education and proper training, they



## **POLICY NEWSPAPER**



The May 2017 issue of *Environment & Climate News* reports on President Trump’s approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline which links oil fields in Canada to refineries in Texas. H. Sterling Burnett, Managing Editor of *Environment & Climate News*, writes “the U.S. Department of State has estimated Keystone XL will create between 3,900 and 6,000 construction jobs and a total of 42,000 jobs in

shouldn't be allowed to "act as a profit center for medical board organizations." [Read more](#)

#### **From Our Free-Market Friends**

##### **Rich States, Poor States, 10th Edition**

In the 10th edition of *Rich States, Poor States*, a notable study by Arthur B. Laffer, Stephen Moore, and Jonathan Williams, the authors examine the 50 states' economic outlooks using 15 state policy variables and establish economic performance rankings based on state gross domestic product, absolute domestic migration, and non-farm payroll employment. The authors say the top 10 states (in order) are Utah, Indiana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Tennessee, Florida, Wyoming, Arizona, Texas, and Idaho. [Read the full report here](#)

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industries directly and indirectly related to the project." [Read more](#)

##### **Budget & Tax News**

##### **Environment & Climate News**

##### **School Reform News**

#### **The Heartland Institute**

The Heartland Institute is a 33-year-old national non-profit organization dedicated to discovering, developing, and promoting free-market solutions to economic and social problems.

#### **Our Websites**

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**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** Oppose Travel Taxes in Ohio

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**ISSUE ALERT**

April 26, 2017

**To:** Members of the Ohio House of Representatives  
**From:** The Jeffersonian Project  
**Re:** Oppose Travel Taxes in Ohio

**The operating budget currently under consideration in the Ohio General Assembly (Substitute HB 49) would levy the sales tax on travel services- defined as "acting as an agent to sell travel, tour, or accommodation services to the general public or commercial clients." As a result, sales and use taxes would be calculated based on the full price paid by customers to the travel intermediary, i.e. including the fees charged by online travel agents.**

Additional taxes make travel to Ohio more expensive, thereby harming Ohio's tourism industry and weakening the economy as a result. **The Jeffersonian Project, the 501(c)4 affiliate of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), strongly opposes this new discriminatory service tax on the Ohio travel and tourism economy.**

**Intermediaries connect potential tourists with Ohio hotels, and by doing so, help generate tax revenue from these visitors through their in-state commerce.** Visitors also add to the Ohio economy through purchases at local restaurants, stores, events and other in-state businesses. In a modern, digital economy, intermediaries serve as a crucial facilitator to position the state to benefit from domestic and global travelers.

**Imposing new taxes in Ohio, including taxes on the state's crucial travel industry, impedes economic growth** and conflicts with the ALEC Principles of Sound Taxation, which states that tax policy should be competitive, neutral and fair to all business, regardless of industry. Moreover, as ALEC model policy - the Travel Agent Tax Fairness Act - notes, online travel companies are separate entities from accommodations providers. Online travel companies do not provide lodging and amenities, but instead facilitate the purchase of that lodging.

**What Ohio will lose in tax revenue from travelers who choose to stay elsewhere will likely outweigh the revenue generated by the expanded tax; such is the epitome of shortsighted tax policy.** As the principle from Economics 101 suggests, when you tax something more, you get less of it. Earlier this session, lawmakers in Montana and Arkansas rejected similar taxes on travel intermediaries, understanding that applying new taxes on travel services will create a disincentive to travel to states with such taxes.

Ohio's sales tax burden is already higher than 21 other states; income earners already endure the nation's 13th highest income tax rate, state and local rates combined, on top of this. Adding to the burden will harm Ohio taxpayers.

**Therefore, the Jeffersonian Project strongly encourages members in the Ohio General Assembly to avoid new taxes on the state's travel and tourism economy and instead focus on broader, fundamental reforms that improve the state's competitiveness.**

Thank you for your consideration.

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*The Jeffersonian Project is the 501(c)4 affiliate of the*

*American Legislative Exchange Council.*

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The Jeffersonian Project, 2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600, Arlington, VA 22202

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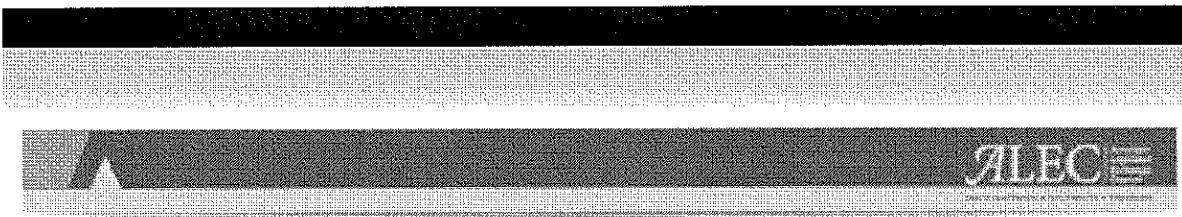


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**From:** Courtney Cook  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 26, 2017 8:47 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** ALEC Spring Meeting - 1 Week Away!

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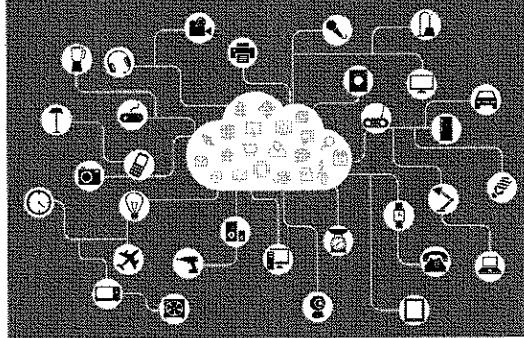


**Have you Registered?**

Take a seat at the table and join us in Charlotte, NC as we discuss issues you want to know about.

**>> REGISTER NOW**





## **Center for Innovation and Technology Reception**

May 4, 2017

Getting to Charlotte early on Thursday, May 4? Check-in at the registration desk and join the reception for our Center for Innovation and Technology from 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

## **Top 7 Policies being Discussed at The Spring Task Force Summit**

May 5, 2017

- Vehicle Platooning for Safety and Efficiency Act
- Resolution Regarding Property-Assessed Clean Energy Programs
- The Breach of Personal Information Notification Act
- Self-Sufficiency in Medicaid Act
- Resolution in Support of Nonprofit Donor Privacy
- Forming Open and Robust University Minds (**Forum**) Act

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- Principles on On-line Privacy

[\*\*READ MORE ➔\*\*](#)

## **North Carolina Welcome Reception**

May 5, 2017

Join us after a day of meetings to network with attendees at the North Carolina Welcome Reception. Be sure to grab a bite of that famous North Carolina pulled pork! Bring your badge and join us from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM.





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**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2017 8:13 PM  
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**Subject:** ALEC- 2017 Annual Meeting Speaker Announcements!

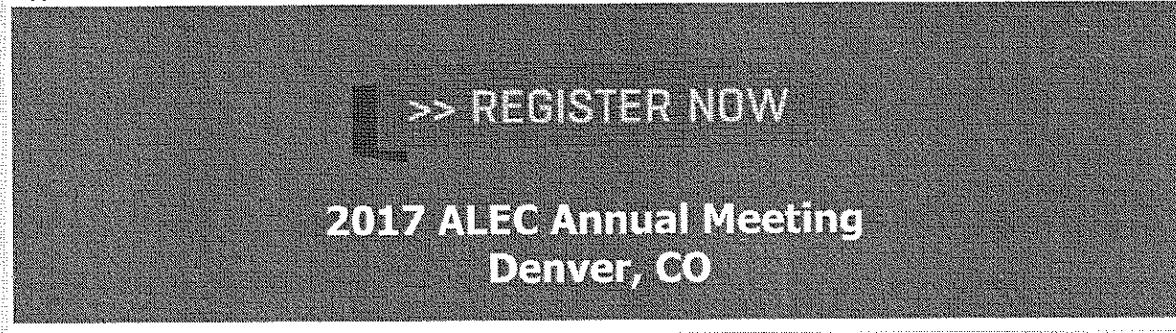
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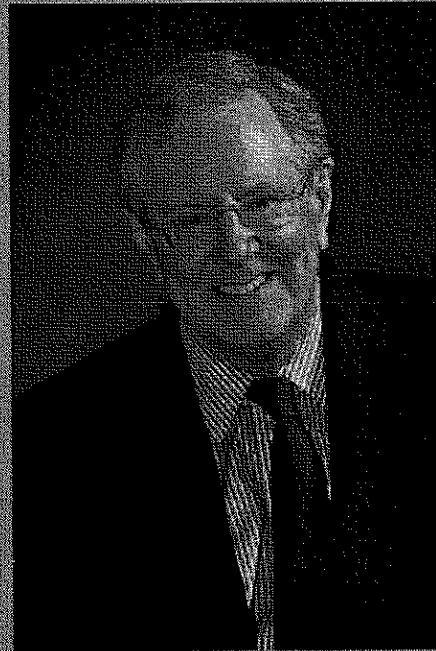


**July 19 - 21, 2017**

**ALEC is excited to announce two keynote speakers that will be joining us in Denver!**



**Governor Matt Bevin, KY**



**Mr. Steve Forbes**

**Stay tuned for more speaker announcements coming soon!**

**Need to make your hotel reservation?**



Make your reservation at the Hyatt Regency Denver today! Rooms are going quickly! We have negotiated the discounted rate of \$205/night (plus tax) for your stay.

**Book your room now!**

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**Early Bird rate ends June 6!**

**>> REGISTER NOW**

## **Fun Facts about Denver:**

The Colorado State Capitol Building is exactly 5,280 feet above sea level – one mile high and sits in the city of Denver

In Denver's rarified air, golf balls go 10 percent farther.

With less water vapor in the air at this altitude, the sky really is bluer in Colorado.

In 1893, while on top of nearby Pikes Peak, Katharine Lee Bates was inspired to write the words to "America the Beautiful." D

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**Questions? Please contact our Events Team or visit our website.**

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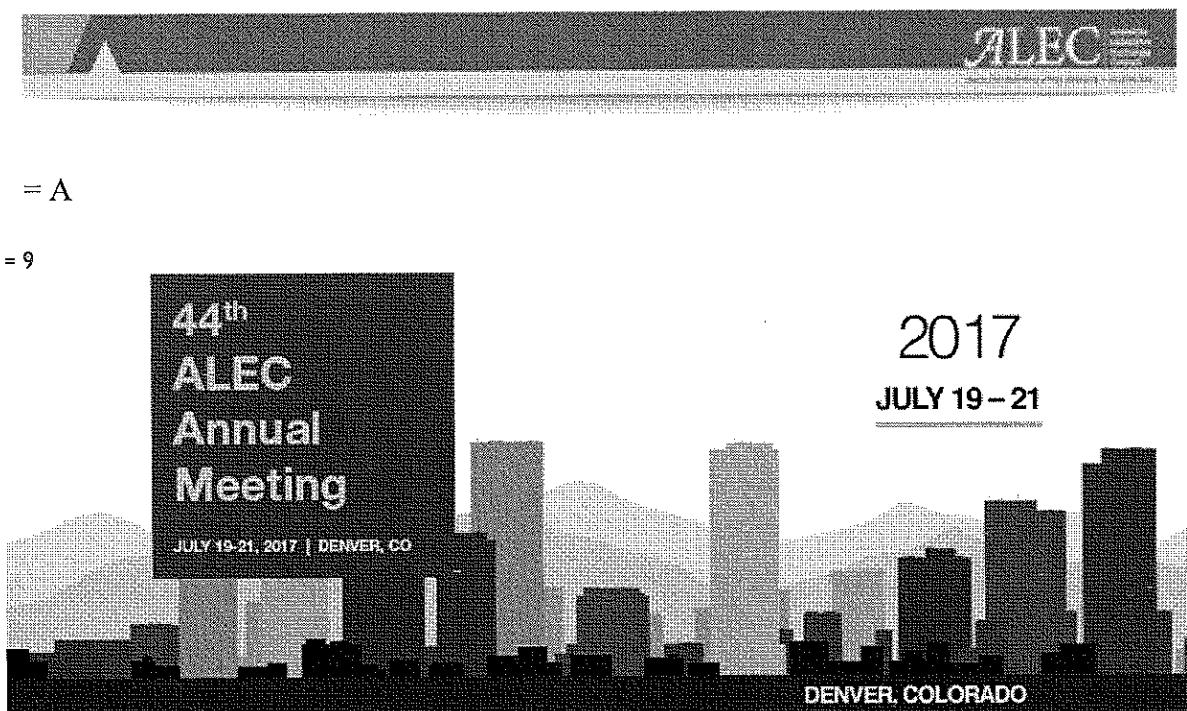
  
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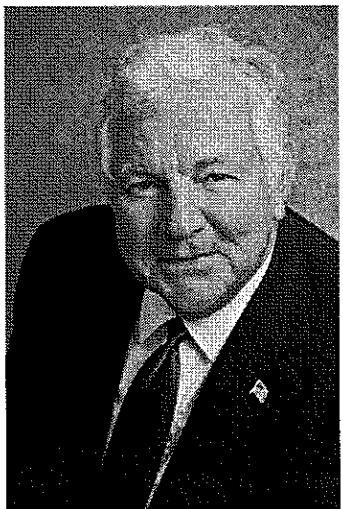
**Look Who Will be joining us in Denver!**

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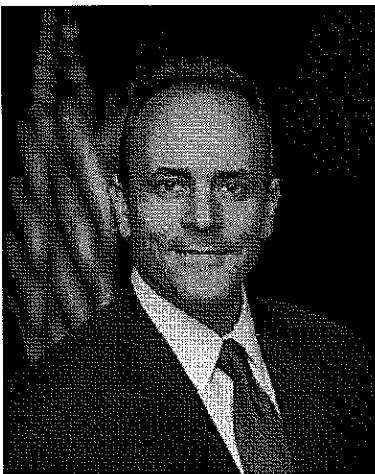
**Just Announced...**

**Dr. William "Bill" Bennett**

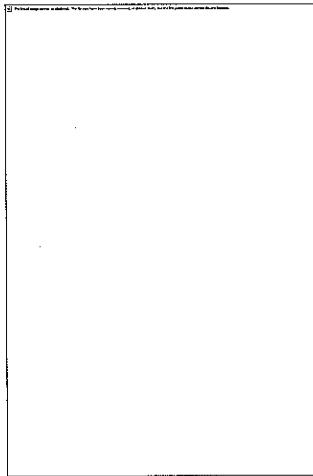


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**Don't miss these great speakers as well!**



**Governor Matt Bevin (KY)**

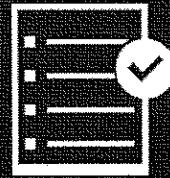


### Mr. Steve Forbes

#### Agenda News!

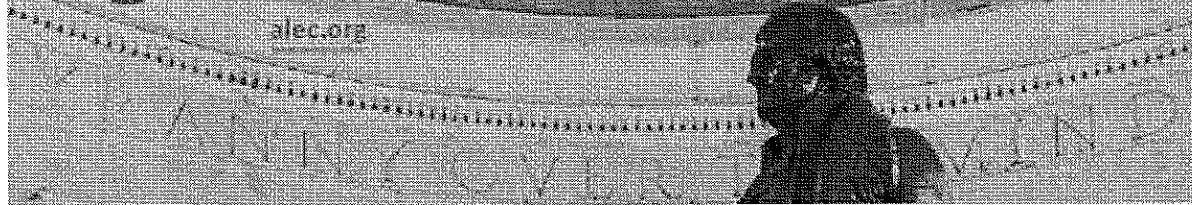
Don't miss our exciting workshops covering issues from clean coal to prescription drug abuse. Stay tuned for more announcements!

*Do you have an issue you would like to see discussed at our Annual Meeting? Let us know! Contact Jeff Lambert to find out more about hosting a workshop at our Annual Meeting in Denver.*



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## Legislative Staff Fellowship



### Bring your Legislative Staff to Denver!

The Legislative Staff Fellowship provides participants the tools necessary to be successful in their careers, learn about free market principles and build lasting relationships with peers from around the country.

#### **The fellowship includes:**

Hotel Costs  
Meals  
Meeting Registration Costs  
Up to \$500 in Travel Reimbursements

**Key Features Include:**  
Professional Development and Training  
Peer-to-Peer and Vertical Networking  
Policy Discussion, Dissection and Analysis

To learn more about the program, please contact Lacey White, ALEC Policy Coordinator

Accepting applications for both ALEC Annual Meeting and ALEC States and Nation Policy Summit.

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The ALEC Annual Meeting will be here before you know it! Be sure to reserve your room now at the discounted rate of \$205 (per night) and stay in our host hotel, the Hyatt Regency Denver!  
**Housing block ends on June 26**

### **Book Now!**

**If you have reserved your room already, THANK YOU!**

---

Need to register for the ALEC Annual Meeting?

You still have time to save with the early bird rate!

**Early Bird ends June 6**



**>> REGISTER NOW**

**If you have already registered, we can't wait to see you soon! THANK YOU!**

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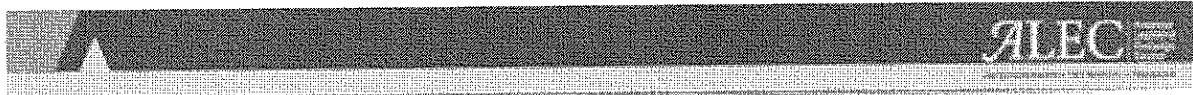
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**From:** Speaker Cliff Rosenberger  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 6, 2017 11:21 AM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** Thomas, Transform Your Relationship With Your Constituents. For Free

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Dear Representative Patton,

As a legislator, you wear more than one hat: balancing your roles at home, work and in government. You deserve a break anywhere you can get one.

**ALEC CARE** is the growing, one-stop shop Constituent Relationship Management (CRM) tool for legislators. This dynamic tool allows elected officials to prioritize and spend time where it matters by eliminating manual data entry and proactively recording every constituent interaction - building stronger relationships and surfacing key insights into your community.

**Would it be even better if that tool was free?**

**ALEC CARE is 100% free with your ALEC membership. So what is there to lose?**

**Find out what ALEC members consider one of the most valuable benefits we offer.**

**Sign up** for a personal demonstration to see how it can benefit you.

**Click here** and a member of our team will reach out to schedule a 20 - minute demonstration.

I hope you will take advantage of this valuable, **FREE** tool.

Sincerely,

Speaker Cliff Rosenberger  
State Chair, OH

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**From:** Speaker Linda Upmeyer  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2017 4:01 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** You're Invited: ALEC State Leadership Academy July 17!

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Dear Thomas,

We all tackle hard-hitting issues in our respective states and while one size does not fit all, why not come together, collaborate and develop winning policy solutions, tailored to the individual needs of our states?

I hope you will join me and other legislators from states across the country for an **invitation-only academy**, designed exclusively for Speakers of the House, Senate Presidents and Caucus and Committee Chairmen.

Don't miss out on this jam-packed event, featuring TV and radio personalities, leading policy experts and valuable opportunities for us to network with leaders in neighboring and regional state legislatures and even gain insight from our counterparts across the country.

This Leadership Academy will be held July 17-18 at the Hyatt Regency Denver in conjunction with the American Legislative Exchange Council Annual Meeting. To RSVP, please contact Spencer Chretien at [schretien@alec.org](mailto:schretien@alec.org) or (571) 482-5013.

**ALEC will cover two nights hotel and reimburse up to \$500 in airfare.**

**Click here for a copy of the agenda.**

Sincerely,

Speaker Linda Upmeyer, Iowa

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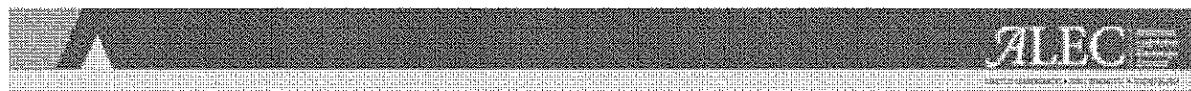
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**From:** Lisa B. Nelson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 21, 2017 12:01 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** Thomas, you're busy - we get it, and we have a solution

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Dear Representative Patton,

You're busy — we get it.

That's why we want to help you save time and energy with our ALEC membership benefit, ALEC CARE— a ground-breaking constituent relationship management (CRM) tool. This dynamic tool allows you to make the most of your time and improve your engagement with your constituents.

Our ALEC CARE team would like to help get you and your account started. If you are making plans to attend the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting in Denver, July 19-21, carve out some time in your schedule for a quick, **20-minute CARE demo. Click here** for available time slots. For more information, contact Ashley Varner [avarner@alec.org](mailto:avarner@alec.org).

Sincerely,

Lisa B. Nelson  
CEO

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**From:** Spencer Chretien  
**Sent:** Friday, June 23, 2017 5:17 PM  
**To:** Spencer Chretien  
**Subject:** Don't Miss Out: ALEC State Leadership Academy July 17-18

Dear friends,

I want to personally invite you to our American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) State Leadership Academy on July 17 and 18 in Denver, CO. Earlier this week you received an email from Iowa House Speaker Linda Upmeyer inviting you, but I wanted to follow up.

This Academy is *exclusively* for legislators who serve in leadership positions, and will bring together your colleagues and counterparts from across the country. We will have exciting outside speakers and plenty of time for fellowship. ALEC will cover two nights' hotel and reimburse up to \$500 in travel costs.

This Academy is being held right before our 2017 Annual Meeting begins; of course, you are welcome to join us for our larger meeting as well.

If you are interested, please RSVP to me for more logistical details. We hope to see you in Denver for our State Leadership Academy!

Thank you for your service as legislators and your commitment to the principles of freedom.

Spencer

Spencer Chretien  
Membership Manager  
American Legislative Exchange Council  
571-482-5013 (office)  
202-281-8879 (cell)  
[SChretien@alec.org](mailto:SChretien@alec.org)



Upcoming Meetings:

2017 Annual Meeting – July 19-21, 2017 – Denver, Colorado

2017 States and Nation Policy Summit – December 6-8, 2017 – Nashville, Tennessee

2018 Spring Task Force Summit – April 27, 2018 – Grand Rapids, Michigan

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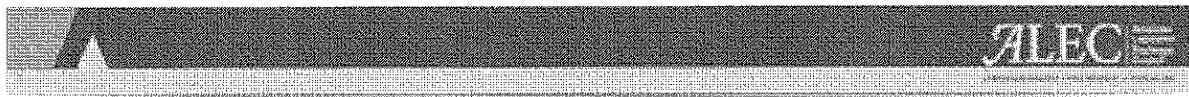
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**From:** Speaker Cliff Rosenberger  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 3:23 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** Thomas, Transform Your Relationship With Your Constituents. For Free

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**Sign up** for a personal demonstration to see how it can benefit you.

**Click here** and a member of our team will reach out to schedule a 20 - minute demonstration.

I hope you will take advantage of this valuable, **FREE** tool.

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Speaker Cliff Rosenberger  
State Chair, OH

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**From:** Speaker Linda Upmeyer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 28, 2017 5:23 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** IMPORTANT REMINDER: You're Invited to the ALEC State Leadership Academy July 17!

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Dear Thomas,

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**ALEC will cover two nights hotel and reimburse up to \$500 in airfare.**

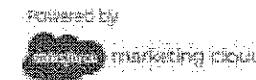
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Sincerely,

Speaker Linda Upmeyer, Iowa

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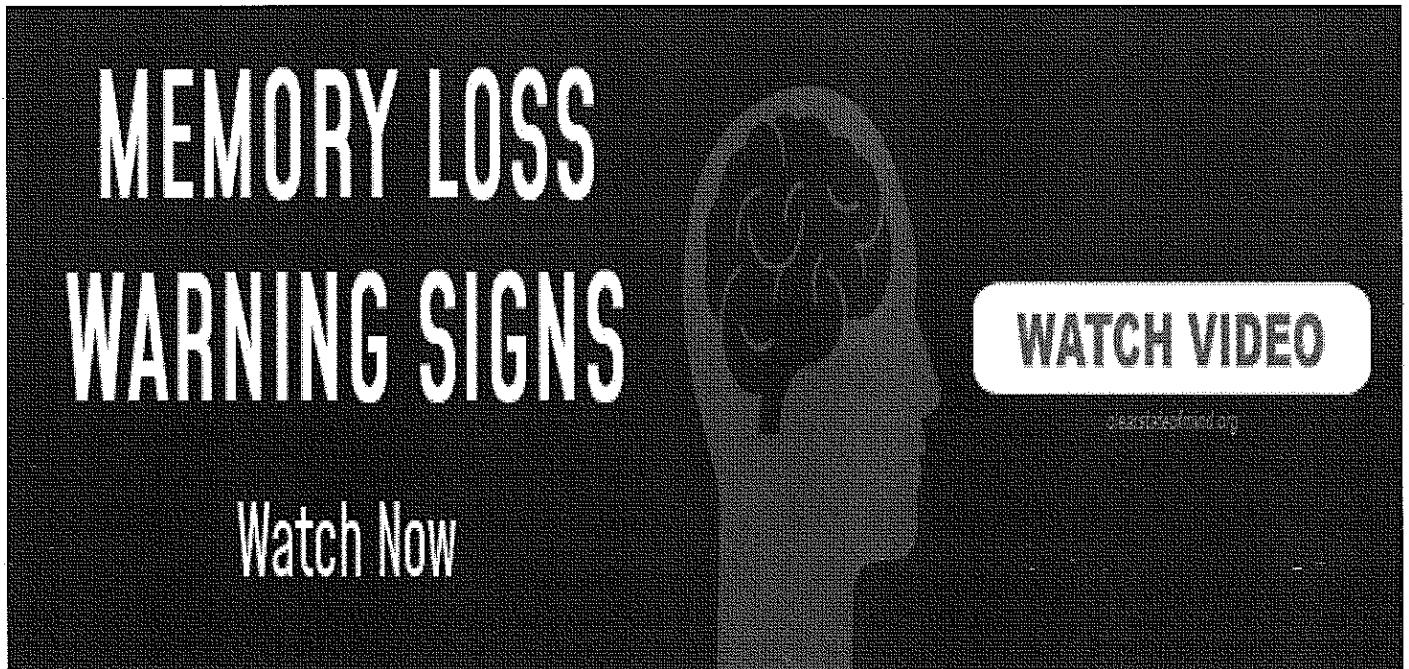
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**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** The FBI Just Reported Something Major About The GOP Shooter

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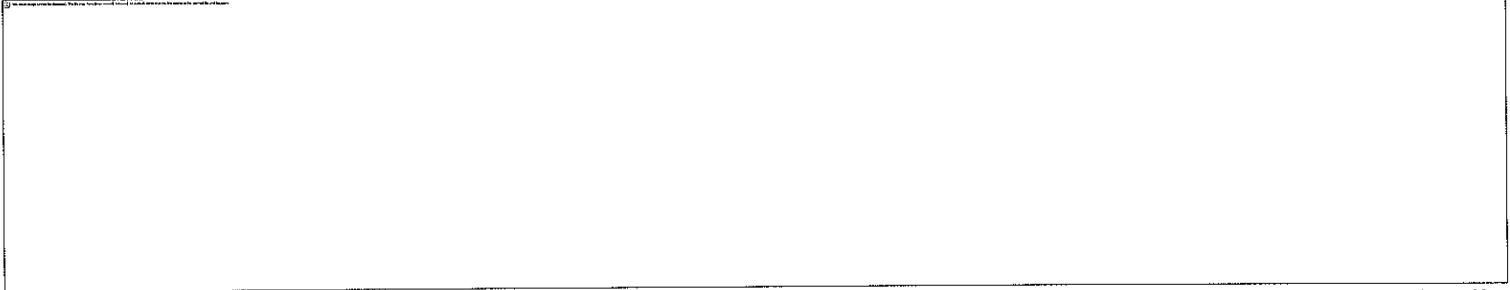
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Dear Patriot,

The FBI recently held a press conference to relay their findings from their investigation of the attempted mass assassination of GOP leaders.

Little was known about the attack at the time, but now FBI Assistant Director in Charge Andrew Vale announced at the Bureau's findings at a press conference.

And what they made public will shock you.

[Click Here to Read More.](#)

Steve Thompson, Editor

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## Expert Opinion

### Illinois Must Dig Itself Out of the Fiscal Ditch

ownhall | Jonathan Williams | Christine Smith | State Budget Reform



[Read the Full Article](#)

Finger-pointing is rampant in Illinois as the state's credit rating has been downgraded by S&P and Moody's to near junk status, the lowest ever for a state.

[Click here for more.](#)



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## Expert Insight

### On the Kansas Budget Impasse, Look Beyond the Media Hype to the Facts

he Hill | Kansas Senator Ty Masterson | Joel Griffith



[Read the Full Article](#)

The Kansas impasse over how to resolve the budget gap and whether to impose drastic tax hikes has captured the attention of both the state and the nation. Task Force Director Joel Griffith, firmly suggests,

*"If legislators value the marked improvement in Kansas jobs growth since the start of 2013, minimizing the tax burden of jobs creators, entrepreneurs, and workers should be at the forefront of a final agreement."*

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## Pension Expert Insight

### Pension Obligation Bonds Could Unravel Pension Reform Victory

Joel Griffith | Thurston Powers | Pension Reform



[Read the Full Article](#)

Recent pension reform progress in states like Pennsylvania could take two steps back, due to Pension Obligation Bonds (POB). POBs are simply not worth the risk of gambling with the hard earned money of both current and future taxpayers.

[Click here for more.](#)



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## Expert Opinion

### Delaware Could Learn an Economic Lesson from North Carolina

The News Journal | Jonathan Williams | James P. Ursomarso



[Read the Full Bio](#)

When it comes to state budget problems, Delaware is not alone as it faces a nearly \$350 million gap. In fact, more than 30 states faced budget shortfalls this fiscal year.

[Click here for more.](#)



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## State Budget Report

### The Williams Report

State Budget Solutions | Bob Williams | Senior ALEC Scholar



[Read the Full Report](#)

Make sure to catch the bi-monthly *Williams Report* for a quick rundown of action in the states on budget and pension reform.

[Click here for more.](#)



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**Don't miss out on this exclusive event – RSVP for the State Leadership Academy today!**

---

Dear Thomas,

We all tackle hard-hitting issues in our respective states and while one size does not fit all, why not come together, collaborate and develop winning policy solutions, tailored to the individual needs of our states?

I hope you will join me and other legislators from states across the country for an invitation-only academy, designed exclusively for Speakers of the House, Senate Presidents and Caucus and Committee Chairmen.

Don't miss out on this jam-packed event, featuring TV and radio personalities, leading policy experts and valuable opportunities for us to network with leaders in neighboring and regional state legislatures and even gain insight from our counterparts across the country.

This Leadership Academy will be held July 17-18 at the Hyatt Regency Denver in conjunction with the American Legislative Exchange Council Annual Meeting. To RSVP, please contact Spencer Chretien at schretien@alec.org or (571) 482-5013.

**ALEC will cover two nights hotel and reimburse up to \$500 in airfare.= 2**

**Click here for a copy of the agenda.**

I hope you won't miss out on this exclusive event. Please RSVP for the State Leadership Academy today.

Sincerely,

Speaker Linda Upmeyer, Iowa

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**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** Thomas, 20 Minutes is all I ask

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Dear Thomas,

Over the past three years, ALEC has experienced a period of dramatic growth that ran parallel to a national refocusing on the states and state-based, limited government policy. Governed by the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan, ALEC has dramatically increased policy programming, membership, fundraising, media and public awareness. Last year was our best fundraising year ever, and thus far this year we've recruited a near-record number of new members.

As we enter our 45th year as the leading state legislative, free market organization and begin the next strategic planning process, you can play an integral role in our future by sharing your thoughts—**by taking the 2017 ALEC member survey**.

LEC is at its best when members identify and share the issues they are confronting in the states. For instance, ALEC was on the leading edge of discussion and model policy creation regarding the opioid epidemic because of Wisconsin Representative John Nygren's direction. Similarly, in response to requests from legislators around the country, ALEC is launching a new Task Force focused on Homeland Security (more on that below). These anecdotes are just a few that represent how ALEC can support your research and continuing education needs.

**Please take 20 minutes to complete the ALEC member survey. It's among the most important things you can do to ensure ALEC continues to grow and serve legislators and stakeholders as it has done for more than two generations.**

**Complete the Survey Here**

In a past member survey, we learned members wanted ALEC to be on the cutting edge of new issues and to provide more explainer content to help legislators quickly and easily understand the nuances of a granular piece of policy. And as a result, over the past two years the ALEC team has launched several new Centers or Task Forces as well as produced hundreds of videos.

Please take a moment to view two great new explainer videos on mandatory minimum sentencing and tax reform. And, please be sure to share them with your colleagues.

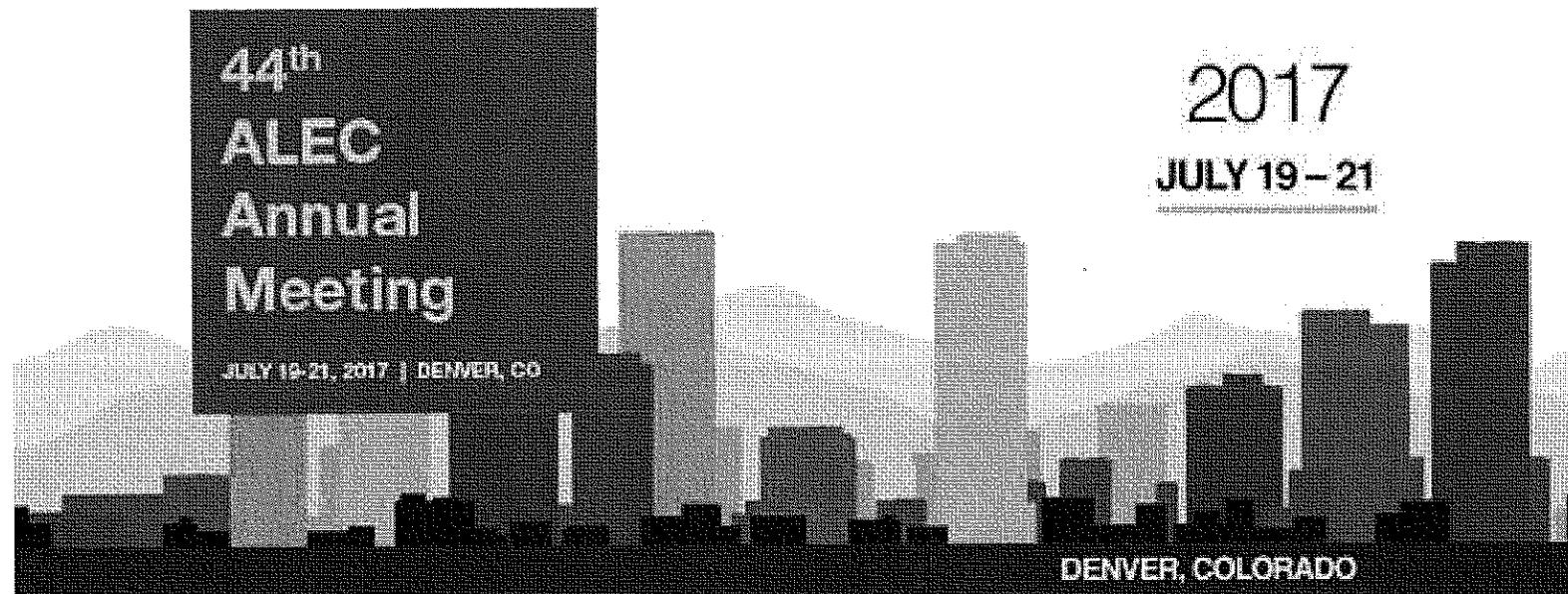
New policy content comes in many forms such as working groups. Many of you may have participated in the Homeland Security Working Group over

the past three meetings. The new Homeland Security Task Force which will meet for the first time at the Denver Annual Meeting will focus on a myriad of security issues, from school security to cybersecurity, from first responders to infrastructure and everything in between to bring state legislators, local and county elected officials, and industry and thought leaders together for information sharing, and the creation of model policy. If you or one of our peers are interested in joining the task force please email Spencer Chretien [schretien@alec.org](mailto:schretien@alec.org).

LEC is growing to serve its members. With an eye toward all we've accomplished over the past 45 years, we are headed toward a bright future where states will lead the way. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the Denver Annual Meeting this month and appreciate you taking time to **complete the member survey.**

incredibly,

isa B. Nelson  
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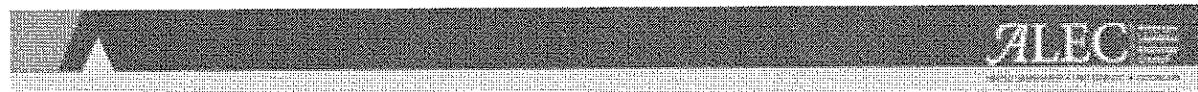
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## ALEC Annual Meeting Resources

### Confirmed Speakers



[See the Line-up](#)

### Travel/Lodging



[Make Your Reservation](#)

### For the Kids



[Kids Congress](#)

## Annual Meeting Agenda Spotlight

### Homeland Security Task Force Meeting

Contact Spencer Chretien to Join: [Schretien@alec.org](mailto:Schretien@alec.org)



[Read the Full Article](#)

The new **Homeland Security Task Force** will meet for the first time at the Denver Annual Meeting. The meeting will focus on a myriad of security issues, including school security, cybersecurity, first responders, infrastructure and much more. Click below for the full meeting agenda.

[Click here for more.](#)



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## ALEC CARE

### ALEC CARE Demos in Denver

Contact Ashley Varner for more information: [avarner@alec.org](mailto:avarner@alec.org)



[CARE Demo Schedule](#)

While you make plans for your Task Force meetings, make sure to carve out time for a quick, 20-minute CARE demonstration.

**ALEC CARE** is an internet-based, one-stop shop for **Constituent Relationship Management (CRM)** for lawmakers. This valuable suite contains outreach communication and constituent data retention tools to help legislators expand their constituent engagement. Customizable constituent profiles, versatile email and touch-tone phone surveys, and text and SMS push messaging help public officials gain real-time insight into the attitudes and policy priorities of their constituents.

If your Task Force meeting is on Thursday, our CARE team would be happy to reserve your spot during one of the Friday time-slots. If your Task Force meeting falls on Friday, drop by during the Thursday line-up.

## Annual Meeting Agenda Update

### ALEC Workshop Line-up

Wednesday, July 19 ALEC Workshops:

#### Restoring the Balance of Government

*The State of Oil and Natural Gas Regulations: Local Governments vs. State Agencies & How the Industry Can Best Balance Transparency and Safety*

#### Fiscal, Fiscal and Efficiency in Government

*Setting the Response to the Opioid Crisis Right*

#### Innovation and Technology

*The Future of Fossil Fuels: How Innovative Technologies will Lower Costs and Solve Environmental Objectives*

#### Fiscal, Fiscal and Efficiency in Government

*Expanding Access to Dental Care in Medicaid Through Market-Based Solutions*

Thursday, July 20 Workshops:

#### Restoring the Balance of Government

*Why the Nation Needs You to Drain the Swamp With the Ultimate Tool of Federalism: 4 Perspectives on Article V*

#### Innovation and Technology

*Combating Prescription Drug Abuse: A Collective Approach to Policy Solutions Is Essential*

#### Innovation and Technology

*Beyond the Headlines: The Data and Trends You Need to Know about School Choice*

Friday, July 29 ALEC Workshops:

#### Fiscal, Fiscal and Efficiency in Government

*Marijuana: Determining the Financial Impact of Legalization and Regulation*

[Click Here for the Full Meeting Agenda](#)

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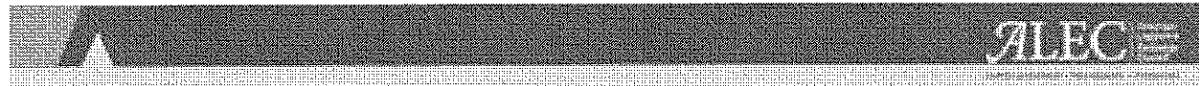
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## 2017 ALEC Member Survey

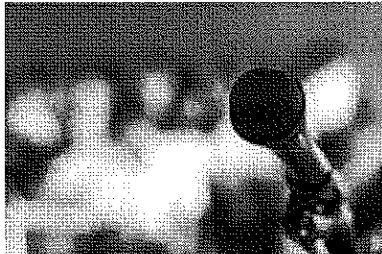
As we enter our 45th year as the leading state legislative, free market organization and begin the next strategic planning process, you can play an integral role in our future by sharing your thoughts—by taking the 2017 ALEC member survey. Please take 20 minutes to complete the ALEC member survey. It's among the most important things you can do to ensure ALEC continues to grow and serve legislators and stakeholders as it has one for more than two generations.

[Click Here to Complete Your Survey](#)

## ALEC Annual Meeting Resources

### Annual Meeting Speaker Updates

Click the link below for the complete list



[Confirmed Speakers](#)

### Annual Meeting Travel and Lodging

Click below for a list of alternative hotels in the area



The 44th ALEC Annual Meeting in Denver, has an exciting speaker line-up. With new confirmations everyday, keep an eye on your inbox for the latest on meeting updates.

The ALEC hotel block is CLOSED. If you have not yet booked your hotel room for Denver, contact the hotel directly for possible cancellations or click the link below for a list of near by hotels.

[Alternative Hotels](#)

## ALEC CARE

### ALEC CARE Demos in Denver

Contact Ashley Varner for more information: [avarner@alec.org](mailto:avarner@alec.org)



[CARE Demo Schedule](#)

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If your Task Force meeting is on Thursday, our CARE team would be happy to reserve your spot during one of the Friday time-slots. If your Task Force meeting falls on Friday, drop by during the Thursday line-up.

## Center to Protect Free Speech Update

### Three (Quick!) Lessons for Legislators About Commercial Speech

by Shelby Emmett | Commercial Speech



Proceed with caution when limiting or compelling commercial speech, the Washington Legal Foundation (WLF) warns.

*"Government legislators and regulators should think long and hard before using any speech restraint or compelled disclosure to pursue their consumption preferences or policy goals."* This is the conclusion of the new policy paper by the WLF.

In this easy-to-read three lesson article, Center Director Shelby Emmett breaks down the fundamentals of protecting commercial speech.

[Click here for more.](#)



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## Featured ALEC Member

### ALEC-FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week

Representative Kim Coleman | UT-42



[Read the Full Bio](#)

Representative Kim Coleman was born in New Orleans and spent her early childhood years in Louisiana and Texas. Before entering politics, Rep. Coleman was involved in business. She received undergraduate degrees in sociology and psychology, and a certification in criminology from the University of Utah. After graduate work in addictions counseling, Rep. Coleman dedicated her time to inpatient treatment of adolescents with mental health disorders and substance addicted teens.

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**From:** Steve DiLullo  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2017 10:46 AM  
**To:** Rep07  
**CC:** Dan Toporowych; Jason Mulcahy  
**Subject:** ALEC 2017 Denver / VirTra

Senator Patton,

I am the Central US Regional Sales Manager for VirTra working here in southwest Ohio (Centerville). I recently retired from a 20+ year law enforcement career that spanned two states (AZ and OH) and three police departments. I am a former trainer and supervisor who loves to see police officers get better training so they can better protect themselves and the communities they serve. This is why I have started my second career with VirTra Firearms/Use of Force Simulators. Our company provides the best Judgmental Use of Force/Marksmanhip/De-escalation simulation training on the market.

I received your information from a new VirTra employee and former Parma police officer – Dan Toporowych. He advises you may be interested in advocating for better Use of Force training in your district and perhaps the state. If you happen to be attending ALEC 2017 in Denver next week, I would love to give you a demonstration of what we do at the VirTra booth (V300/five screen Use of Force simulator – fully interactive). And, if feasible for you, I would love to take you and any appropriate Ohio legislators to dinner to discuss further? If you are not attending the conference and if interested, could we arrange a conference call to discuss simulated Use of Force training further?

VirTra is no stranger to giving Regional demonstrations (Cuyahoga County 2018?) and even teaming with states (AZ and UT) on statewide Use of Force simulated training curriculums/equipment. I hope to speak with you in the near future about this issue. Thank you for your service to our state and thank you for your loved ones service and sacrifice for a righteous cause – God, Country/Constitution, Family.

Regards,

**STEVE DILULLO**  
REGIONAL SALES MANAGER

**VirTra**

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office: 480.968.1488 | mobile: 480.261.7379 | fax: 480.968.1448 | email: [steve.dilullo@virtra.com](mailto:steve.dilullo@virtra.com)

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**From:** Rep07  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2017 4:28 PM  
**To:** Steve Dilullo  
**Subject:** Re: ALEC 2017 Denver / VirTra

Thank you for your note. Unfortunately, next week us my 15th Annual TPC Golf Tournament. I have 288 golfers (over 36 holes) attending. Thus I'm unable to attend ALEC this year. But I do plan on attending NCSL in early August. Absent that, a colleague of mine for many years in the Ohio Legislature, Majority Leader Bill Seitz will be in attendance. If we won't be able to hook up in Boston, perhaps you may wish to at least attempt a meeting with Bill. If all else fails, let's plan on speaking in mid-August.

Tom Patton  
Majority Whip

Sent from my iPad

On Jul 14, 2017, at 10:45 AM, Steve Dilullo <[steve.dilullo@virtra.com](mailto:steve.dilullo@virtra.com)> wrote:

Senator Patton,

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Regards,

**STEVE DiULLO**  
*REGIONAL SALES MANAGER*

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**From:** Steve Dilullo  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2017 4:45 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** Re: ALEC 2017 Denver / VirTra

Senator Patton,

Thanks for the info. I will definitely try to get in touch with Leader Seitz in Denver. Don't thin VirTra has any Boston shoes, but we will be in touch.

Thank you sir,

Steve Dilullo / VirTra

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 14, 2017, at 4:28 PM, "[Rep07@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep07@ohiohouse.gov)" <[Rep07@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep07@ohiohouse.gov)> wrote:

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Regards,

**STEVE DiULLO**  
*REGIONAL SALES MANAGER*

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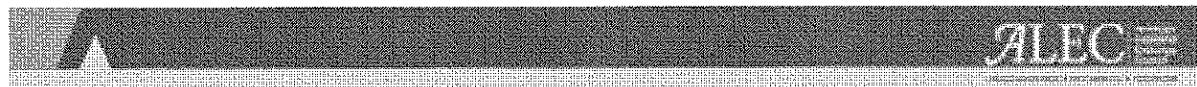
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**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** Thomas, wondering what's on the agenda for today?

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Welcome to the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting

Thank you for joining us for the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting in the mile high city! ALEC meeting attendees must go to the first floor and take the escalator up to the third floor to access the ALEC Annual Meeting space.



Look below for today's meeting details.

[Watch Today's Video Promo](#)

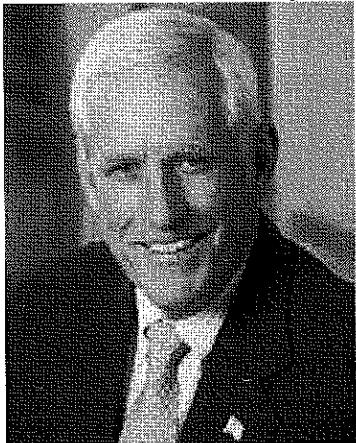
## Plenary Session - Wednesday, July 19

### Opening Luncheon Panel Discussion: 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Sponsored by: Anadarko, Extraction Oil & Gas, Noble Energy | Hosted By: ALEC Center to Protect Free Speech

**Mr. Peter H. Coors**

CCRO | Molson Coors Brewing Co.



**Opening Lunch Panelist:**  
*Mr. Peter H. Coors*

Peter H. Coors is Chairman and Chief Customer Relations Officer of Molson Coors Brewing Company.

[Speaker Bio](#)

**Darcy Olson**

Former CEO | Goldwater Institute



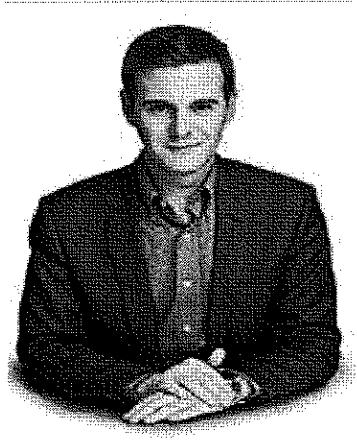
**Opening Lunch Panelist:**  
*Darcy Olson*

Darcy Olson is the former CEO of the Goldwater Institute.

[Speaker Bio](#)

**Mr. Guy Benson**

Editor | Townhall | Contributor | Fox News



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*Mr. Guy Benson*

Guy Benson is the Political Editor of Townhall.com and a Fox News Contributor.

[Speaker Bio](#)



## Today's Speakers

**Cynthia Coffman** - 11:30 AM - Centennial D-H  
**Mr. Chip Rimer** - 11:30 AM - Centennial D-H  
**Mr. Steve Forbes** - 11:30 AM - Centennial D-H



## Full Speaker Line up

## ALEC After Hours

Appaloosa Grill - Happy Hour - [Directions](#)  
Casa Bonita - For the Family - [Directions](#)  
Jack-n-Grill - "Man-vs-Food" - [Directions](#)

## ALEC After Party

## Wondering What's On The Agenda Today?

### Workshops

- **1:45 PM - 3:00 PM (Centennial A - Level 3)** *The State of Oil and Natural Gas Regulations: Local Government vs. State Agencies & How the Industry can Best Balance Transparency and Safety*
- **1:45 PM - 3:00 PM (Centennial C - Level 3)** *Getting the Opioid Crisis Right*
- **3:15 PM - 4:30 PM (Centennial A - Level 3)** *Expanding Access to Dental Care in Medicaid Through Market-Based Solutions*
- **3:15 PM - 4:30 PM (Centennial C - Level 3)** *The Future of Fossil Fuels: How Innovative Technologies will Lower Costs and Solve Environmental Objectives*

### Receptions

- **8:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Agate A - Level 3)** *Consumer Technology Association Hospitality Suite*
- **4:15 PM - 5:15 PM (Mineral D-E)** [American City County Exchange Welcome Reception](#)
- **4:30 PM - 5:30 PM (Denver City Terrace-Level 5)** *Women's Caucus Reception (Members Only)*
- **4:45 PM - 7:30 PM (Lobby)** *Shuttles to/from Welcome Reception*
- **5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (\*Offsite Mile High Stadium)**

Contact Courtney Cook for more information: [ccook@alec.org](mailto:ccook@alec.org)

[Click Here for the Subcommittee Meeting Schedule](#)

## ALEC CARE

### ALEC CARE Demos in Denver

Contact Ashley Varner for more information: [avarner@alec.org](mailto:avarner@alec.org)



## CARE Demo Schedule

While you are making plans for your Task Force meetings, make sure to carve out some time for a quick, 20 - minute CARE demonstration.

If your Task Force meeting is on Thursday , our CARE team would be happy to reserve your spot during one of the Friday time-slots. If your Task force meeting falls on Friday, drop by during the Thursday line-up.



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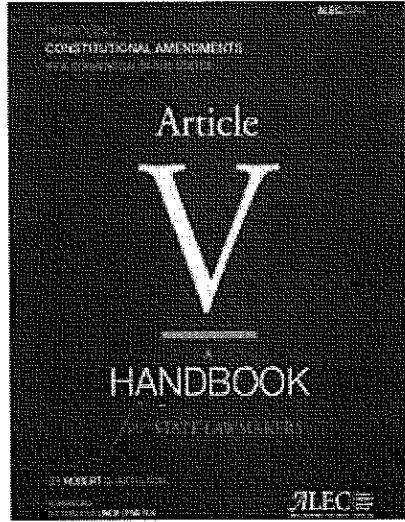
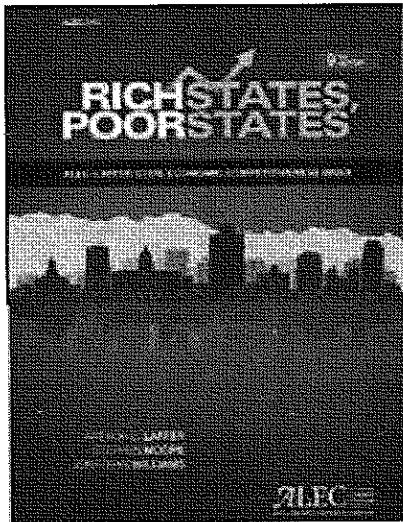
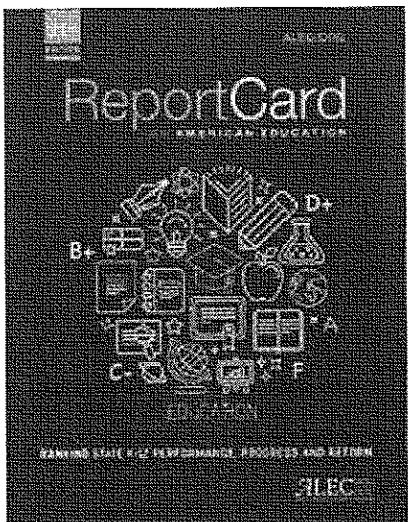
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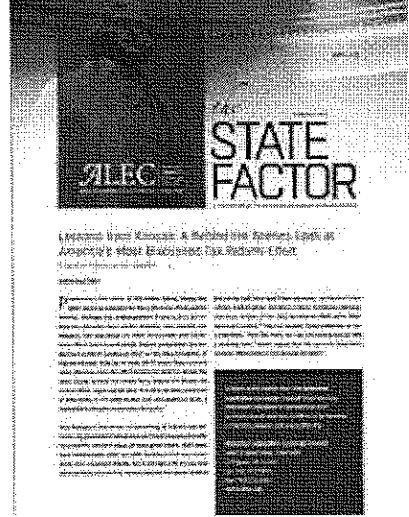
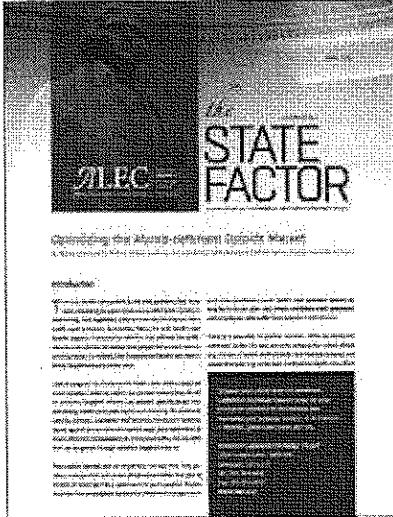
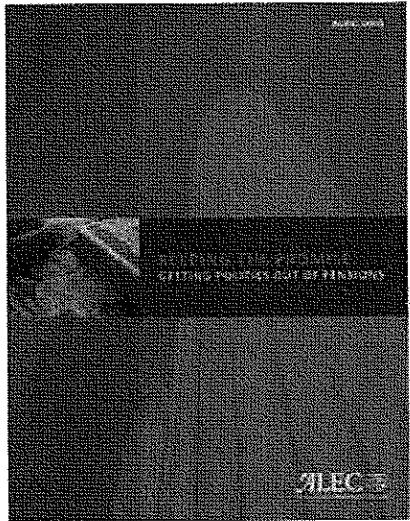


Forward

## 44th ALEC Annual Meeting Library

Stop by the ALEC Library in Exhibition hall, outside of Centennial Ballroom for copies of What Our Experts are Reading





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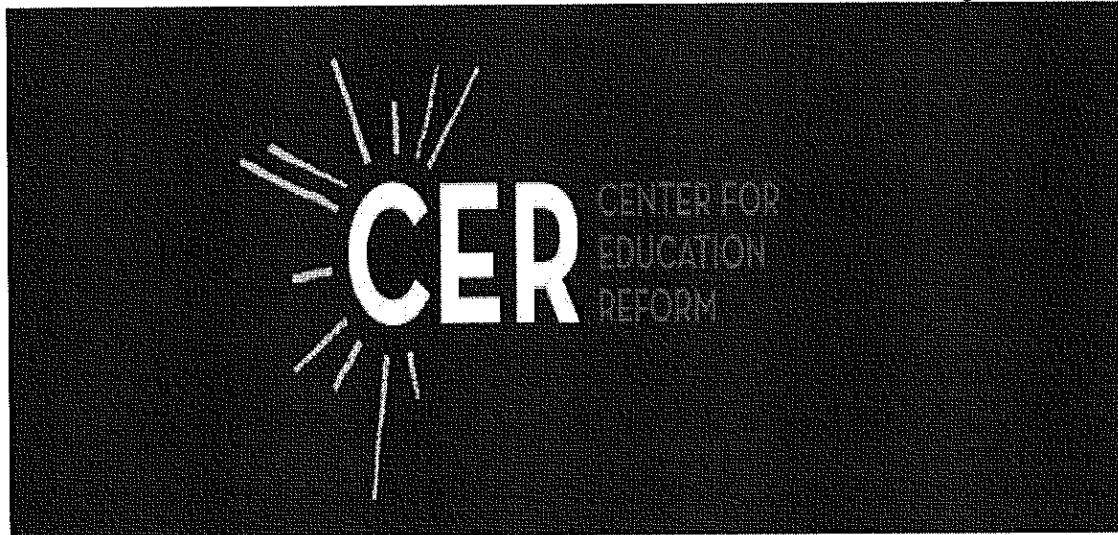
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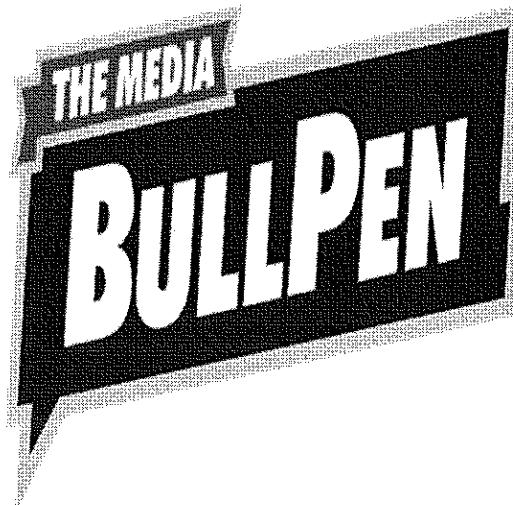
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Founded in 1993, the Center for Education Reform aims to expand educational opportunities that lead to improved economic outcomes for all Americans — particularly our youth — ensuring that conditions are ripe for innovation, freedom and flexibility throughout U.S. education.

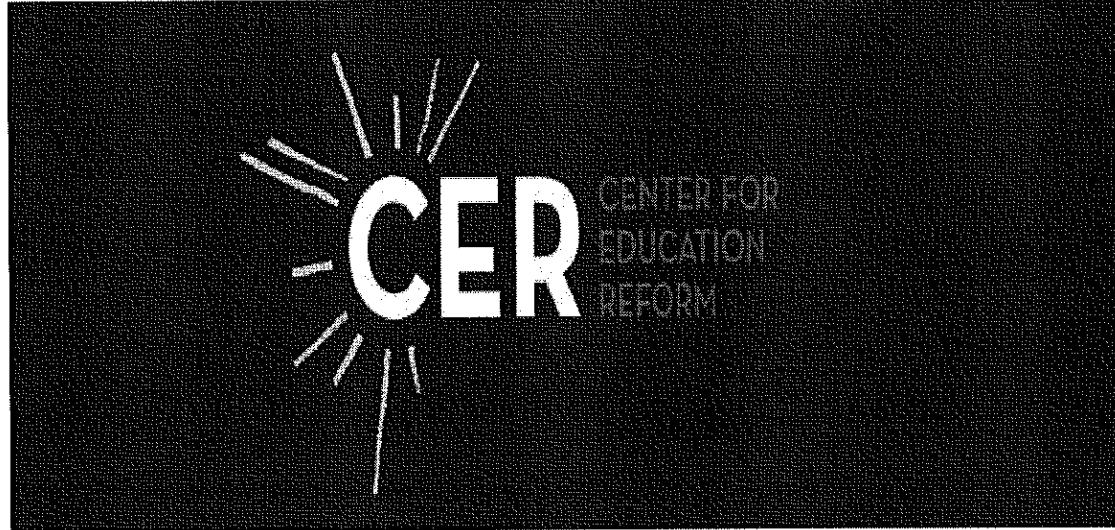
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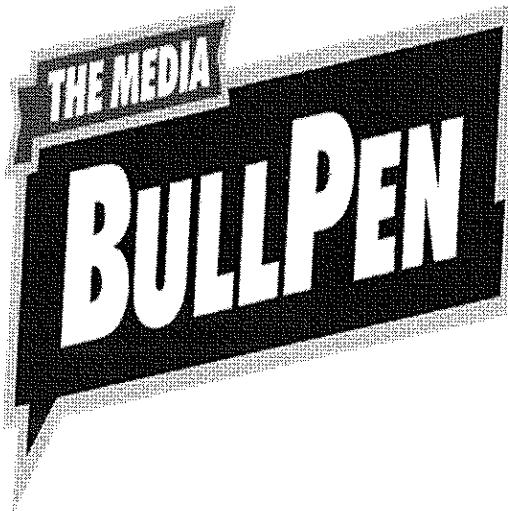
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**From:** Steve DiIullo  
**Sent:** Monday, August 7, 2017 2:01 PM  
**To:** Rep07  
**CC:** Jason Mulcahy; Ryan Bray; Dan Toporowycz  
**Subject:** VirTra Firearms / Judgmental Use of Force conference call

Senator Patton,

Are you still interested in speaking (via conference call) with myself and VirTra personnel about the possibilities of our company bringing state of the art Use of Force training to your region and perhaps the whole state of Ohio? If so, I believe we are open Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup> after 1:00 pm EST. I was thinking the call might take around half an hour....If this date or time does not work for you, please let me know what does.

ALEC went well, however, Majority Leader Bill Seitz was not able to stop by the booth (or if he did, I was on break). I did meet Rep. David Reis 109<sup>th</sup> District and Rep. Dick Stein District #57. They seemed impressed and agreed I should follow up with you and Leader Seitz.

Regards,

**STEVE DIULLO**  
*REGIONAL SALES MANAGER*

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7970 S. Kyrene Road | Tempe, AZ 85284 | USA

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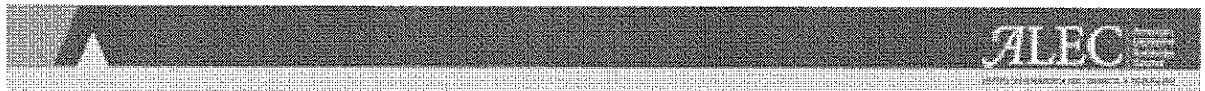
**From:** American Legislative Exchange Council  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2017 10:02 AM  
**To:** Rep07  
**Subject:** ALEC Working to Stop Opioid Crisis

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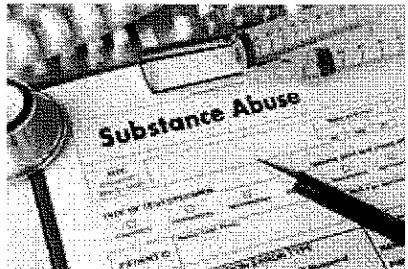


## Digital Exchange - August 10, 2017



### While Progressives Protest, ALEC is Working to Stop the Opioid Crisis

Matt Vespa | Reporter, *Townhall*

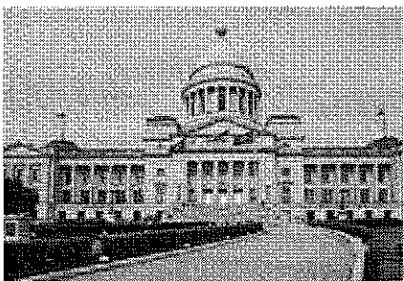


A recent *Townhall* article offers a first-hand account of ALEC's workshops on addiction from the July Annual Meeting. Matt Vespa provides a pointed list of how ALEC is working with the states to combat the opioid crisis... [\(more\)](#)

## Expert Opinion

### Arkansas Fumbles the Ball With Fantasy Sports Tax

Elliot Young | Regulatory Reform



Arkansas joined thirteen other states that have legalized betting on fantasy sports contests. ALEC's Elliot Young opposes singling out this industry for what he calls, "discriminatory taxation"... ([more](#))

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## NEW: ALEC Video

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### **Donor Disclosure in an Age of No Privacy**

Sarah Wood | Free Speech



Guy Benson, Darcy Olsen and Pete Coors addressed the 44<sup>th</sup> ALEC Annual Meeting on donor disclosure in an age of no privacy... ([watch video](#))

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## Expert Insight

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### **Thou Shalt Not Steel**

Joseph "Cy" Tongate | International Trade



The Trump Administration announced they are delaying action on whether to impose tariffs on steel imports. For years, the U.S. steel industry claims illegal dumping has shuttered mills resulting in massive job losses... ([more](#))

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## Featured ALEC Member

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### **ALEC-FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week**

Representative Bill Taylor | SC-86